# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and foreign Literature, Science, and the fine Arts.

No. 2093.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1867.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1867.

#### LITERATURE

Letters of Distinguished Musicians: Gluck, Haydn, P. E. Bach, Weber, Mendelssohn. Translated from the German by Lady Wallace. (Longmans & Co.)

Mozart und Haydn in London. Von C. F. Pohl. (Vienna, Gerold; London, Williams & Norgate.)

THE first of these works is as pleasant a volume of light musical reading as has been lately laid before the public. It would serve no purpose again largely to descant on the peculiarities of Lady Wallace as a translator, seeing that there is small chance of their being amended. Her assiduity, however, is to be recognized as having done much to naturalize a large body of biographical material which can never henceforward be overlooked by those who deal with the masters of a lovely art. But it will not be safe to quote from her pages without close comparison with the originals whenever the meaning is at all

While going through these letters again, we have been anew struck by the credit done in them to a class of artists unjustly disparaged as deficient in intelligence and not rich in moral worth. The amount of industry and kindly feeling, the traces of keen observation they display among musicians, is worthy of all attention, and may be fairly propounded to those sour bigots, if such are still to be found, who have groaned over the debasing and enervating influences of Music as a pursuit. It would be as fair to decry the grave profession of Law, because unchaste Judges have sat in Courts where chastity had to be discussed,—as fanatical to demand that because intemperance is largely abroad in the land, the vines should be torn from the hills. The world is becoming wiser in these matters than it used to be; and in the case under illustration good cannot but accrue from the publication of these unpremeditated utterances, confessions, and records of friendly intercourse. We are satisfied that the cause we are advocating would be strengthened could the correspondence be ransacked of musicians less distinguished than the five great men here grouped together.

Among these five Gluck is seen to the least advantage,-as a man pompous and self-engrossed, who met with small patience any opposition to the theories he propounded; eories, let it be added, of no such extraordinary novelty as he pretended; theories which he contradicted in his works with right royal insolence whenever it suited his views of effect so to do. It is possible, however, that Gluck was not precisely answerable for all that was written in his letters. In those relating to the famous Parisian controversy, he may have been helped by some of those eager paper-warriors who have been always busy in French green-rooms and French journalists' secret chambers. Such advocates rarely fail to exaggerate, to force facts, for the sake of brilliancy of period and climax. A tendency towards inflation is to be discerned in the dedications and rejoinders of Gluck. It may be urged that his humble origin, long struggle with life, and, lastly, the intoxicating patronage of that enchantress Marie-Antoinette might explain, if not justify, his vainglory when at last the gaze and the gold of the French public fastened themselves on him. But the humour of the second letter-writer in this gallery shows that Gluck's haughtiness may not have been of circumstance so much as of character.

No one will close this volume without in-

He was one, like Gluck, of humble origin and scanty education. His cheerful temperance and his unenvying industry are shown to have been as remarkable as his genius. His letters are delightful in their combined manliness and artlessness, and call up a picture of a state of society now, happily for patrons and the patronized, gone by; as regards himself of as useful, indefatigable a life of content without callousness or stupidity as the lover of artists could desire to look on.

He made, while a youngster, a bad marriage with the daughter of the wig-maker, Keller, and had to pay for its consequences all his life, in the form of incessant work. It is cheering to see how he could reconcile himself to a long household service of the Prince Nicholas Esterhazy, for whose baritone he was required to produce a supply of pieces, the number of which seems fabulous if there be no mistake in the figures,-and how, after so many years of bondage, he could, without servility or ignorance, enjoy all the profitable honour and glory of his London sojourns, which included lionism in the saloons of the rouged, over-dressed Mrs. John Hunter (whose canzonets he set so exquisitely), while her uncouth husband, the famous anatomist, stalked about, growling at his wife's foreign fancies. He equally enjoyed attentions from royal and noble personages; and sympathy from the sweet-hearted and prescient Burney, who, in him as later in Mozart and Beethoven, could discern and appreciate the man of real genius. Nor can anything be better, because more thoroughly unaffected, than Haydn's perpetual praise and understanding of Mozart's genius,—than his patience with that inferior copy of himself, his pupil, Ignace Plevel, who was brought to London by a speculative rival to Salamon, to be pitted against him,—than his homely, thoughtful will, religious in its justice and affection. A life of Haydn, with reference to his art and to his character as an artist, has to be written. But from this his sentimentalities, such as exhaled in his letters to Frau von Genzinger, must no more be left out than in any life of Burns can be the Ayrshire ploughman's inflated passion for his Clarinda. Haydn, though as uneducated a man as Burns, had a better taste in writing his raptures than our countryman had. It is fair to suggest, however, that neither would have written had their raptures been other than Platonic.

In pursuance of Haydn's career, the story of which has been re-opened by the English translation under review, we call attention to the second of the German volumes here coupled with it. Herr Pohl's book is written rather for his than for our country, as the details of our doings, artists and institutions, which he has collected with amazing industry, are to the English so much superfluous matter. It is to be regretted that they should be disfigured by such a disproportionate amount of press errors. For this reason, we shall be brief in our review, acknowledging as we should the great value of the work to foreign readers. It may tend to dispel the ridiculous ideas which so long prevailed in Germany as to the absence of sympathy for Music in this country. That Haydn was more caressed in its capital—and with no indiscriminating praise, but intelligently, by those whose regard was worth having—than he was as the retainer of Prince Nicholas Esterhazy, is clear from every page recording the events of his two visits. Nor less evident is the fact that his richest and loveliest inspirations were begotten and nourished among his London experiences. The Symphonies which he wrote for Salamon were many a flight bolder than any sons who may be pained by a sharp epithet,

crease of his love for the man Joseph Haydn. other of his orchestral works. His Canzonets to English words are the only single songs by him which live. They remain unapproached by those of any other writer. It was to the stimulus of England's oratorio performances that the world owes 'The Creation.' These things have been too ungenerously forgotten by the Germans. It is clear, too, that, in spite of our late hours and usages, which are found particularly hard to bear by those habituated to an easier manner of living, Haydn found keen enjoyment in England, apart from the substantial gains he gathered here. It has not been possible to go through his notes of his London pleasures and performances without contrasting him favourably with a later guest, who also was honoured amongst us. It might have been predicated that a man who had seen so much of courts and cities as Spohr had done, from his youth upwards, should have had a wider and more genial feeling for others than one who only emerged from a very narrow circle after the time of life when habits are formed. But the two composers were as far apart from each other as selfishness from generosity. A more genial example of the temper which every artist would do well for his own happiness and success to cultivate could not be cited than that of dear old Haydn.

We must now return to Lady Wallace's col-lection. The letters of Philip Emanuel Bach are of far less value than those of Haydn, being merely matter-of-fact notes on business. The contributions of Weber to the volume are more interesting, as was to be expected from one who commanded the pen of a journalist as well as of a musical composer. They show the bright side of his character in his warm attachment to his comrade Gansbacher, and his gratitude to his master, the Abbé Vogler; but they also present indications of the incompleteness which we noted in the badly-written but interesting biography by his son. Unlike the author of 'The Creation,' Weber could be bitter and unjust to any of his contemporaries whom he fancied rivals. A certain chronic soreness that most unfortunate of habits of mind for persons of imagination, tempting him to despond and to dwell "on hope deferred"—is to be discerned in the earlier letters. The details of his failing health, ascribable in part, we fancy, to the irregularity of his life before his marriage, are sad to read. On the whole, there is fever in these letters—but there was fever in the writer's music.

session of rich, original genius could well be more opposite than the lives and the spirits of the composers of 'Der Freischütz' and 'Elijah.' Mendelssohn's letters close this volume as with a strain of good cheer,—saddened though the same be by the recollection of the shortness of the happiest, healthiest, most brilliant, most complete life ever led by Poet. His reputation as one of the most charming among the letter-writers who have delighted the world will suffer nothing by the specimens here translated—principally addressed to his

Nothing save their both reflecting the pos-

friend, Bärmann, the clarionet-player. They are full of his liveliness, his enthusiasm, his shrewd, sound sense, his warm-hearted affection, and the admirable, never affected, choice of language which have so endeared him to every reader who knew him not, and deepened every precious recollection cherished by those who enjoyed the privilege of knowing him. The letters already published are only a part of those that exist. Even in what have been printed there may have been important omissions, out of respect to the feelings of per-

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which was often thrown out in the playfulness of the moment. We shall never cease to regret that, while those were alive who could have put together a rich store of anecdote and recollection, the details of Mendelssohn's visits to England were not collected by those who had his memory in charge. The time is now past. Most, if not all, of his earliest hosts, and many of the friends to whom he trusted himself, heart in hand, with a frank unreserve which hesitated at expressing nothing, grave or gay, as it rose to his lip, have crossed "the bourn," and the store which could have been easily accumulated from their testimony has perished irrecoverably.

Eighty Years of Republican Life in the United States. By Louis J. Jennings. (Murray.)

Much of this essay on the constitutional history and present political position of the United States has appeared in the columns of the daily paper of which Mr. Louis Jennings was for some time the American Correspondent; and in re-dressing his letters for publication in their present form the author has not hesitated to repeat warnings and admonitions which would have been more in accordance with general opinion had his volume appeared twelve months earlier. To encourage our Conservative statesmen to resist the democratic movement which has resulted in Mr. Disraeli's Reform Bill, the Correspondent observes: "The House of Commons, since the year 1832, has been said to be an epitome of the English nation; the House of Representatives is nothing but a deputation from the least cultivated classes of America. There is no great interest, whether of labour or capital, in the world of commerce or the world of thought, which has not hitherto been faithfully reflected and honestly guarded, without detriment to other interests, in the House of Commons." This language would have seemed less unreasonable when Mr. Lowe's anti-reform speeches were being declared unanswerable at the West End of London; but it is strangely out of date and place now that our Conservative politicians have enfranchised the mass of our working classes, on the ground that the House of Commons, as it is at present constituted, does not faithfully represent and constituted, does not landing represent and honestly guard all the great interests of the country. That this mention of our unre-formed House of Commons appears in the volume through the author's inadvertence we may not presume; for his book concludes with an intimation that we should beware of those politicians in our midst who, in their admiration of American institutions, recommend them to Englishmen as worthy of imitation, and "invent wrongs for others in order that they may obtain influence of which they are unworthy, and use it afterwards to the disadvantage of an ancient kingdom which has been assailed by many demagogues, and hitherto survived them all." From these two passages may be seen the drift of Mr. Jennings's advice to a country which he thinks in danger of following the democratic example of the United States.

Notwithstanding the friendliness of some of his professions to the American people, his criticisms of their institutions are one-sided and ungenerous. He admits that the Government "of the United States passed through the tre-mendous assaults made upon it in the Civil War with resolution and success, which could not have been excelled had it been in the hands of a small and privileged class"; but he holds that the success was due far more to the material resources of the nation than to its political system. Holding that democracies are more prone

says much of the venality of American constituencies and statesmen, but he does not trouble himself to demonstrate the comparative purity of the constitutional governments of Europe. The oft-reneated assertions of the failure of the ballot to put an end to bribery are advanced yet again, but with no additional evidence. That under exceptional circumstances corrupt influence may decide the vote of a numerous constituency, and that corrupt voters may win the wages of corruption in spite of the ballotbox, are facts which Mr. Jennings demonstrates with needless pains; but when he speaks of the bribery that occasionally triumphs over the restrictions of secret voting in America, it does not occur to him to glance at the wholesale corruption which attends the open voting of our own elective system. Moreover, he omits to notice the protection which the ballot-box unquestionably affords to a certain class of honest voters. Of the lobbying and log-rolling of Members of Congress the book tells much, but it is silent about the private arrangements by which Bills affecting the pockets of English politicians are nursed through Parliament by the members who have a pecuniary interest in their success. If the corrupt practices of the Washington lobbyists are to be taken as demonstrations of the dishonesty of democratic assemblies, the no less reprehensible usages of our members of Parliament during years of railway speculation immediately preceding the railway mania, may just as fairly be pointed to as illustrations of the invariable corruptness of legislative assemblies drawn from a select body of voters. It is time for us English to lay aside hypocrisy when we speak about the lobbyists of the American Congress. The days are not so very far distant when the Prime Minister of England declined to bribe constituencies because it was cheaper to buy their representatives. And in our own generation wholesale bribery has been administered to, and greedily accepted by, members of Parliament. In most cases, the corrupt consideration was called "compensation," and was paid with delicate regard to the sensitiveness of the corrupted person in a form that spared him the shame of taking the bribe between his forefinger and thumb; but sometimes the railway projectors of '44 and '45 used to buy members votes with packets of coin or Bank of England notes, given into the hands of the legislators thus bribed by agents who looked them full in the face as they paid them their price. practices have for years been unknown at Westminster; but the recollection of the lobbying which went on in the committee-rooms of our Houses of Parliament less than twenty-five years since should make us slow to attribute the selfishness and knavery of the Washington lobbyists to the democratic character of their constituencies. On other points Mr. Jennings panders to the anti-American prejudices of the English public. Repeating an old cry, he assures us that the presidential throne "is a prize contended for chiefly by hungry place-hunters, or the obscure and illiterate puppers of a faction," and that its occupant "must, by the inevitable cir-cumstances of his position, be the slave of those who set him in the place of authority, only to use him to their own purposes." Hard words are uttered more easily than justified; and in the list of the American Presidents there are so many names of men who were neither obscure, nor illiterate, nor mere place-hunters, that we cannot concur with Mr. Jennings's sweeping denunciation of all the later occupants of the White House. On his first accession to the highest office, Abraham Lincoln was stig-matized as "the obscure and illiterate puppet

ity of his origin and education, he was a puppet who served the purpose of America not less well than most politicians of better birth and culture would have done. But the superciliousness with which Mr. Louis Jennings speaks of the foremost politicians of the United States is conciliatory in comparison with the insolent coolness with which he pooh-poohs the resentment occasioned by the rancorous criticisms which a large section of the English press. pured on the Government of the United States during their Civil War. "The most recent complaint of Americans," says Mr. Jennings, "is, that they were traduced and misrepresented by English writers during their war; but have they nothing to complain of on this score from other countries? French writers were not less hostile to them and their cause; but they do not hate France." To this statement the American reader may make several replications. He may deny that the French press manifested the anti-American feeling which Mr. Jennings imagines it to have displayed. He may plead that even if French journalists had persistently attacked the American people throughout the war, their words would have occasioned very little irritation on the other side of the Atlantic, as not one American in ten thousand troubles himself to ascertain the opinions of Paris journalists respecting American affairs, whilst, on the contrary, our English articles on the public life of America are a large part of the current literature of his countrymen.

Language and the Study of Language: Twelve Lectures on the Principles of Linguistic Science. By William Dwight Whitney. (Trübner & Co.)

WITHIN the last year or two articles on language have appeared in the North American Review, in which we were pleased to see views previously advanced by us more fully and ably sustained, and we were still more pleased, on examining the volume before us, to meet with them again in a permanent form as parts of a complete work by the Professor of Sanscrit and Instructor in Modern Languages at Yale College. Mr. Whitney has expanded two courses of lectures on the same subject, and somewhat after the same manner, as Prof. Müller's two series, and set forth the mainprinciples and facts of comparative philology in a scientific and yet popular form. Frankly acknowledging his obligations to Steinthal, Schleicher and Müller, he criticizes their views with great freedom and ability. On Müller's remark-to which we objected in our notice of his work-that "we might as well think of changing the laws which control the circulation of our blood, or of adding an inch to our height, as of altering the laws of speech or inventing new words according to our own pleasure, which he supports by referring to the emperors Tiberius and Sigismund, who, on making mistakes in Latin, were told by grammarians that, powerful as they might be, they could not change the gender or termination of a noun, Prof. Whitney has some excellent comments. He observes that, though no single individual can effect any change in language without the assent of the rest of the community, yet each separate member does in his measure contribute to the formation and growth of its language, just as each separate polyp, though powerless to build up an island by itself, can with the united assistance of many others accomplish the task. Not that the different members of the community deliberately, and in pursuance of a determination formed in concert, set about the task of manufacturing and perpetuating a lanto corruption than aristocratic governments, he of a faction"; but, notwithstanding the humilstinct venier degre contin Ful betwe Prof. a phy mater forces

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and acquired faculties under the influence of the circumstances in which he is placed, instinctively, like the polyp, seeking his own convenience and advantage, contributes in some degree to the changes which are slowly but

continually going on in language.

Fully appreciating the points of resemblance between geology, and still more zoology, on the one hand, and philology on the other, Prof. Whitney refuses to pronounce the latter a physical science, in which he again coincides with us. Physical science has to do with material substances and the action of material forces; whereas, though the material of lan-guage is sound, which may be regarded as a physical product subject to physical laws, it is not simply sound, but sound expressive of thought. Speech cannot, therefore, be regarded as governed by fixed, invariable laws, beyond the reach of human control and capable of forming the basis of a physical science, except by those who ignore or deny the freedom of man's action, or at least hold that the motives by which he is actuated can be ascertained and reduced to general laws, like those of motion, gravitation, &c., from which deductions and predictions may be safely made. Hitherto little or nothing is known of the physical causes by which language is affected. We cannot find any physical explanation of the facts, that the Icelandic is the most ancient in form of the languages belonging to the same family, that the Lithuanian has retained more of the apparatus of inflection than any other modern Indo-European language, and that the Armenian has changed so much as to obscure its Iranian descent.

As to the origin of language, Prof. Whitney holds that it is divine only in the same sense in which the origin of man's nature is divine. Man alone of the animal creation has the power of speech, as he alone has the arts of clothing and housing himself, the first rude beginnings and subsequent improvements in which are analogous to the origin and growth of language. Speech and its laws must always have been the same as we now see them in operation, and whoever insists upon assigning them a fundamentally different origin and character from primitive language, is like a geo-logist who, while acknowledging the formation of recent gravel-beds by the action of water, should deny a similar agency in the production of ancient sandstones and conglomerates.

Prof. Whitney is a staunch advocate of the conventionality of language, denying very positively the existence of any natural connexion between words and the things they are employed to denote. Yet he, rather inconsistently, tells us in his Preface that the more he reads and reflects upon the subject, the more weight is he disposed to attach to the theories which trace it to the imitation of natural sounds and to involuntary exclamations. We are induced to quote his statement as to the object and uses of the scientific investigation of language, because it incidentally gives a good explanation of the

origin of several words:-

"We study, then, the history of words, not in order to assure ourselves of our right to employ them as we do, but to satisfy a natural curiosity respecting the familiar and indispensable means of our daily intercourse, and to learn something of the circumstances and character of those who established them in use. It is because every act of wordmaking is a historical fact, the work of human minds under the guidance of human circumstances, that the investigation of language is an inquiry into the internal and external history of men. The results of such investigation are of the most varied character. Sometimes we find at the basis of a word a mere blunder of philosophy, as when we talk about lunatics, as if we still believed the aber-

ration of their wits to depend upon the devious ration of their wits to depend upon the devious motions of the moon (luna); or a blunder of natural history, as when we call our own native American feathered biped a turkey, in servile imitation of that ill-informed generation of Englishmen which, not knowing whence he came, but surmising that it might probably enough be Turkey, dubbed him 'the Turkey fowl'; or a blunder of geography, as when we style our aborigines Indians, because the early discoverers of this continent set their faces westward from Europe to find India, and thought at first that they had found it. Copper, the magnet, parchment commemorate for us the countries Cyprus, Magnesia, and Pergamos, whence those substances were first brought to the founders of our civilization. Manumit, like candidate, owes its existence to a peculiar Roman custom—of dismissing, namely, with a slap of the hand a slave made free. Money and mint (two different forms of the same original, moneta, the one coming from the French monnaie, the other from the Anglo-Saxon mynet) tell of Roman superstition and Roman convenience: within the imperial city was raised a temple to Juno Moneta, 'Juno the Monisher,' in recognition of the supernatural monitions the goddess had given them in certain crises of their history; and in this temple, as it chanced, was set up the first stamp and die for coining money. We say calculate, because the early Romans reckoned by the aid of little pebbles (calculi). We call a truckling and unscrupulous parasite a sycophant, because it once pleased the men of Athens to pass a law forbidding the exportation of figs from Attica; which, as is apt to be the case with such laws, was little more than a dead letter; while yet there were found in the community certain mean fellows who sought to community certain mean fellows who sought to gain their selfish ends by blabbing, or threatening to blab, of those who violated it (süko-phantes, 'fig-blabber'). We put on a 'pair of rubbers,' because, when that most multifariously valuable substance, caoutchouc, was first brought to us, we could find for it no better use than the rubbing out of pencil-marks. A whole chapter of literary history is included in the derivation of romantic from Rome: it tells of the rise of rude popular dialects, alongside the learned and polished Latin, in the various provinces of the Roman empire; and of of modern European fiction, written so distinctively in these dialects that it got its name from them; and, finally, of the tone and style of fictitious writing, and the characters it deals with. In like manner, a chapter of religious history is summed up in the word pagan (literally 'villager'): it tells of the obstinate conservatism of heathenism in the villages and hamlets under Roman dominion, when the cities had already learned and embraced Christianity. And, once more, slave suggests a chapter in ethnological history: it tells of the contempt in which the Slaves or Slavonians of Eastern and Central Europe were held by the more powerful and cultivated Germans, and of the servitude to which so many of them were reduced. Several among the words we have thus instanced—as lunatic, candidate, romantic, money—farther include, as an essential part of their history, the career of one great conquering and civilizing power, the Roman, whose language, along with its know-ledge and institutions, has been spread to every part of the globe. The etymology of moon, as signifying 'measurer,' has given us an interesting glimpse of the modes of thought of that primitive people who first applied this name to the earth's satellite, and to whom her office as a divider of times was so prominent among her attributes. And this is but one among innumerable instances in which our conceptions of olden times and peoples are aided, are made definite and vivid, by like means. To study the moral and intellectual vocabulary of any tongue is of high interest, and full of instruction as to the laws and phenomena of association which have led to its development out of the earlier signs for physical and sensible things: we are constantly brought to the recognition both of the unity of human nature, as shown by the general resemblances which such study brings to light, and of the diversity of human character and circumstance, as exhibited in the etymological variety of corresponding appellations. In this capa-

city of language to yield to its historical investigator information concerning both the internal life and external history and circumstances of those who have made it what it is, lies, as was pointed out in the outset of our inquiries, no small portion of the interest attaching to linguistic study.

Our author stoutly denies that thought and language are identical, or bound together by any such indissoluble tie as to be incapable of existing separately; referring in support of his denial to the fact, that the same thought may be expressed in different words, and even without any words at all, by movements of the fingers, as in the finger-speech of the deaf and dumb. "If, then," he says, "thought and language are identical, thought and pantomime are not less so; if we think words, the mute must think finger-twists." He admits that we usually think with words, but considers that both the extent to which this is done and the necessity for doing it are much exaggerated. He also holds thought to be anterior to language, every idea having a distinct existence in the mind before the word by which it is denoted, and charges those who think the idea and its sign generated together at the same time, with an absurdity equal to that of believing that "along with each child are born its swaddling clothes and a cradle."

What has been by rather a happy retort styled Prof. Müller's ding-dong theory of the origin of language, is here utterly repudiated, and its weakness ably exposed. Prof. Whitney also objects to his notion as to the formation of language from a number of different dialects, maintaining that what takes place is the reverse process from unity to diversity. He does not, however, think that linguistic science affords sufficient evidence to enable us to form any decided opinion as to the unity or antiquity of

the human race.

It is a matter of simple justice to state in conclusion, that the perusal of these Lectures has afforded us much pleasure and advantage. They display a more accurate scholarship than those of another American professor on a similar subject, lately introduced to our readers, and would do honour to any country.

The History of Irish Periodical Literature from the End of the Seventeenth to the Beginning of the Nineteenth Century. By Richard Robert Madden. 2 vols. (Newby.)

On reading Mr. Madden's preface we expected more from his book than we could find in it. It is certainly an industrious and to some extent an interesting compilation, but the author allowed his subject to get the better of him, and to tempt him into making a second volume after having written the first. The dangers of easy speculation are exemplified in the opening essay. Mr. Madden tells us that there is comparatively little difference in the nature of the intelligence supplied by 'Mercuries,' 'Paquets of Newes,' and 'Flying Posts'; and the information given by the modern press on this point is made in order to support an opinion that "the same passions agitate society and prevail in all its sections that had dominion in them many a long year ago." This is the peril of talking of things in the "abstract." When Mr. Madden proceeds to present us with samples of the venerable broadsheets, we find records of burnings, duels and highway robberies; we find stupid personalities, silly verses, and slip-shod paragraphs; and although the latter may be paralleled by some specimens of latter-day journalism, we certainly may claim to have advanced far enough on the road to improvement to escape a comparison either in civilization, or in that peculiar product of it-the

newspaper-with our ancestors. Then, why did Mr. Madden think it requisite to write so much about Irish history and the Stephen's Green Parliament? A little of both would have served his purpose better; and as it is, politics seem to overlay and smother the main intention of the work. Facts speak most eloquently when left to themselves. Mr. Madden might have gained all the compassion his fervent patriotism could expect from his country by publishing, without comment, the significant recitals of cruelty

which he found in his searches.

We thought when we had passed through the preface of eighty-two pages that we might arrive at the subject, but Mr. Madden is as disappointing as the Dutchman who, according to Washington Irving, kept peeling off one pair of breeches after another until the Indians were struck dumb with astonishment at the quantity of his encasements. Mr. Madden must needs inform us of the "introduction of printing into Europe," quoting a number of modern books which are to be found in most libraries, and adding but few new facts to a very old and hackneyed theme. At the finish of his second stage of irrelevance, Mr. Madden presents us with a brace of original poems. Although, like Mr. Wegg, his business is prose, he drops into poetry. This is a strange freak in a book which should have no personal obtrusion whatever.

The first book printed in Ireland would seem to have been 'The Booke of Common Prayer,' published in Dublin in 1551, in 4to. It was in black letter, and was "imprinted by Humfrey Powell, printer to the King's Majesty, in his Highnesses Realme of Ireland, dwelling in the citie of Dublin, in the great toure by the Crane, cum privilegio ad imprimendum solum, Anno Domini, MDLI." 'A Breefe Declaration of certain Principall Articles of Religion' was issued by the same Powell in 1556. Up to 1600 very little appears to have been done in the literary way; but according to Archdeacon Cotton in 1641 the Pope's legate, Rinuccini, established presses in Kilkenny and Waterford for the propagation of Catholicism. In the same year the first drama was published in Ireland, "'Landgartha: a Tragic Comedy,' as it was presented in the New Theatre, with great applause, being an ancient It appears that the author, one Burnell, was charged by his critics with being over modest in not permitting the heroine to accept "the King's embraces." "To which kind of people (who know not what they say) I answer, omitting all other reasons, that a tragic-comedy should neither end comically or tragically, but betwixt both, which decorum I did my best to observe, not to go against Art to please the over-amorous. To the rest of babblers I despise any answer." Good Master Burnell had evidently not to translate adultery from the French. A gentleman in Dublin has in his possession some of the old news-letters, each one foot in length and ten inches in breadth. These are dated 1672, but in 1652 we find that while the Cromwellian soldiers were busy in slaying the mere Irish, orders were given "to sary on Bibles to the troops," that is to say, "one Bible to every file." Mr. Madden becomes eloquently national, an emerald green glitter, so to speak, shining through his phrases, when he recalls that Bibles and bayonets were handed to the men at the same time. He also becomes fierce and truculent when alluding to Mr. Andrews's 'History of British Journalism,' quoting that gentleman's work with all the irony that italics can impart to excerpts. The original Irish newspaper, according to Mr. Madden, was the Dublin News Letter, 1685. It was a single leaf, printed on both sides, and addressed to

an article headed 'London' and two advertisements. Then there was the Dublin Intelligence, full of proclamations of James the Second and William the Third. Preceding it, however, there were several occasional broadsheets, out of which Mr. Madden notes "A particular and full account of the battle of Aughrim on Sunday, the 12th of July, 1691. A list also of the principal persons killed and wounded on both At the close of the seventeenth century, a London publisher came over to Ireland, and gave an account of the state of the trade in Dublin, under the title of 'The Dublin Souffle; being a Challenge sent by John Dunton, Citizen of London, to Patrick Cambel, Bookseller of Dublin.' Mr. Dunton opens the ball by declaring that his virtue was assailed by the women of the country, and his life endangered by "beasts of both sexes." He was very proud of his calling, was Mr. Dunton, describing the books in which he dealt as "the best furniture of a house, and the very epitome of Heaven.' Ireland he genially and politely described as "le pot de chambre du diable." There was only one thing excellent there-"the west wind which ensures a short passage from it." Could Johnson have seen this brochure, and paraphrased from Mr. Dunton his famous indication of the noblest prospect in Scotland? In 1714, there came out a strange journal in Dublin, called Whalley's News-Letter, in which the Pope was abused with a spirit and a perseverance worthy of the Member for Peterborough. He petitioned Parliament against the growth of Popery, and complained of the hidden polemical meaning contained in 'Valentine and Orson' as calculated to undermine the Protestant faith. A contemporary theologian, who differed strongly from Mr. Whalley in his convictions, expressed them with corresponding vigour in a pamphlet, entitled 'A Full Account of Dr. John Whalley's Forced Confession and Entertainment in Hell.' In 1725, the papers inform us of a "gentleman" being hung in chains at Cork for the murder of his wife, and of a reward of two hundred pounds being offered for "Murphy, a Popish priest, who married Susannah Johnson to William Walsh; and the said sum for apprehending Robert Morgan, Catherine Webb, Catherine Ward, accessories in said felonious outrage."

The second volume of Mr. Madden's work is pleasanter reading than the first, though what is entertaining in both might have been, without difficulty, condensed into one. We have an account of George Faulkner, Swift's Irish publisher, and the proprietor of the Dublin Journal, a paper which lived from the days of the Dean to the goodly age of one hundred years. "Several eminent gentlemen were engaged to furnish it with Letters on subjects Moral and Diverting." Mr. Madden devotes no less than 163 pages to this journal, but is partly justified by the light which the extracts throw upon some obscure events in the most obscure parts of Irish history. We have the "Sham Squire" dished up again, and there is a great deal too much of him. How Mr. Madden, with his honourable professions of patriotism, could linger, with evident relish, over lists of blood-money and similar discreditable documents, is difficult to comprehend, unless upon the principle laid down by O'Connell,-that if you wanted one Irishman well roasted on a spit, you should get another Irishman to turn him. On the whole, however, Mr. Madden has, almost in spite of himself, strung together what a sifting and critical reader may find at once amusing and serviceable. We regret he did not perform his task with as much discretion as diligence. He can write with force and decision; but he the public in the form of a letter. It contained should remember Sydney Smith's warning to

voluminous authors, that books published after the Deluge can only have a limited portion of time allotted to their perusal.

NEW NOVELS.

Golden Fetters. By Mark Lemon. 3 vols. (Bradbury, Evans & Co.)

Mr. Mark Lemon's new novel possesses a good many of the qualities that have rendered his former works in the range of fiction acceptable. It has the same pure and honest tone, it shows the same admiration for unselfish virtue, and the same contempt of vice and meanness, whether these qualities be found in the upper or in the lower classes. This is a noteworthy fact. No doubt it often "pays," commercially speaking, to run down one class at the expense another; to find all good in St. Giles's and all bad in Belgravia, or vice versa. Writers of any experience, of course, avoid going into glaring extremes in these matters, but, nevertheless, the tendency is often apparent. The novel now before us deals with both the upper and the lower strata, at least as far as wealth is concerned; but the author sits as an impartial judge, and metes out even justice to all, not according to their place in the social sphere, but in proportion to the truth and consistency of their adherence to the universal faith of peace and good-will towards men. The course of the story sometimes carries us into strange places; but though characters from low life occasionally appear, they are kept within due bounds, and are not allowed to say or do anything that can shock the most sensitive mind, The interview between Dick Alderwinkle, a sporting character of inferior grade, and Mr. Daw, an attorney, who has outwitted him once, and tries in vain to outwit him again, is very amusing. By the chapter of accidents, Alderwinkle has become acquainted with the necessary facts, and is determined to hold his ground. Daw, on the other hand, has imposed upon Alderwinkle's inexperience some years before, when he (Daw) was merely a clerk, and, by the aid of the capital thus obtained, has raised himself to the position of a prosperous and respected solicitor. Alderwinkle now has an important document in his possession, which will prove his own rights and the iniquity of his legal friend, and he is determined to show it to Mr. Daw; but, being aware of the slippery character of the seemingly respectable attorney, he takes a pair of witnesses with him, in the shape of a pugilistic gentleman called the "Pigeon," and a handsome but formidable bulldog, the cherished and constant companion of the said "Pigeon." The triumph of fact over chicanery is complete; the solicitor is obliged to give way, and promise to refund two thousand pounds, or lose his character. The sturdy prize-fighter and his dog, equally ignorant of the merits of the case, but equally ready to interfere if any violence is offered to their friend, form quite as amusing a part of the scene as the conversation between the illiterate but resolute Dick and the baffled lawyer. The story does not lie entirely in scenes of this There are quiet country homes, gorgeous London drawing-rooms, farmers, merchants, people of fashion and people of title. Above all, there is the true-hearted and patient Mildred, deprived by an accident in early youth of all that is generally looked upon as enjoyment in life, but ever ministering to the happiness of others, and taking blame to herself for every act, however innocently and conscientiously done, that appears to militate against the desired result. Perhaps the author carries this a little too far, for there is a point at which kindness degenerates into weakness; but the Nº 20 curtain f content was the proved v

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nst ies ich curtain falls at the proper time, and we may be content to hope that the wayward man who was the principal object of Mildred's bounty proved worthy of it in the end.

The Pretty Widow: a Novel. By Charles H. Ross. 2 vols. (Tinsley Brothers.)

WE have not often met with a pleasanter novel than 'The Pretty Widow.' The incidents are amusing and natural, the style is pure, and the book is free from the inequalities and want of aplomb which are usually found in a first work. The author has a neat way of putting things; he never tires the reader by laboured periphrasis or disgusts him by exaggerated sentimentality. When Manon, the "pretty widow" is travelling in the diligence, absorbed by her great grief at the discovery of her lover's perfidy, he hears the other passengers talking around her, without attaching any meaning to their words. She looks first at one, then at another, with a fixed gaze which appears to them to have a meaning in it, but which is, in fact, the result of her being bewildered by her painful thoughts and almost unconscious of their presence. A woman at whom she stares in this manner is so startled that she pauses half-way in munching an apple; while one of the men, less diffident, "imagines that his discourse interests her, and is thereby enticed out of his depth into a sort of rhetorical whirlpool in which he finally sinks." The waiter at the Three Crowns appears languid and out of sorts the day after a great flood in the neigh-bourhood. Why should this be? The flood is in the open fields, while the town is uninjured, and Alexandre and his property are safe within it. The phenomenon is accounted for in brief but expressive words. "A young lady, whom he had notions about, had an uncle who rented land in the marshes. What remained of its produce was now under water soaking." A Frenchman rather disrespectfully describes Mr. Polyblank, the eccentric hero, as having "a toutensemble quite roccoo—altogether English."
"Thus in some barbarous foreign parts," remarks the author, "they actually liken guys and Goths, and human scarecrows generally, to the natives of that island which, as all the world knows, or ought to know, is 'first on the blazoned scroll of fame,' etcetera, with a chorus."

If the author can laugh good-humouredly at the jokes which may be pointed at his own countrymen, he is not insensible to the oddities of some Frenchmen, their inopportune grandilo-quence, and the bathos to which it occasionally quence, and the bands of the conducts them. "Behold me, my cabbage," exclaims the eloquent pharmacien, M. Pomerchians the eloquent pharmacien, which is the conduction of the ponney (addressing his wife after a mighty journey of some thirty miles), "Behold me returned after a journey—but a journey! Behold me as tired as a dog, and with the hunger of a wolf!" Then to a customer, whose presence he has noticed for the first time, "A journey, sir, of over ten leagues; a journey from Calais, undertaken in the course of certain negotiations relating to a consignment of goods from a foreign port."—"Yes, yes," says the customer, "I want two sous worth of hubarb."

The description of the two detectives who visit the little town of St.-Babylas, in Picardy, in search of a swindler who has crossed the Channel, is a perfect little piece of comedy in its way. Both Englishmen in reality, they are described in the official list of passengers as Brown, of England, and Camus, of Dijon, agriculturists. Their ostensible business at St.-Babylas is "something about beet-root." "They strolled in what seemed quite a purposeless sort of way upone street and down another, every now and

then coming to a stand-still to stare about them, and then strolling on again; and surely no one in the world could have looked as if he knew less what he was about, and where he wanted to go, than Brown, of England—unless, indeed, it were Camus, of Dijon. . . . But in the course of their wanderings they came to that street in which Raynal's lodgings were situated, and, halting before the door, Camus, of Dijon, said, 'This is it.'—'Will you go in?' asked Brown, of England? 'I think I will,' said Camus, in a dreamy sort of way; 'Will you stop out here?'—'I might as well,' said Brown, in an absent manner; 'if you want me, perhaps you'll whistle.'" The book abounds with humorous bits of description.

The fair widow of eighteen years is very innocent and charming; the unhappy usher, Polyblank, is equally innocent, and awkward; while his brother, Dr. Polyblank, is the perfection of a good-humoured scamp, and Roustoubique, the Proviseur of the Imperial College, is an admirable impersonation of petty official meanness and tyranny. We are glad to think that poor Polyblank is to be made happy some day in the smiles of the fair Manon; and the prospect, though a little startling at first, is not, perhaps, so improbable as it seems; for if the merits of the ex-usher and the ex-balletgirl could be placed in a balance, the education and intellect of the former must be found to form, at least, some sort of counterpoise to the superior personal advantages of the "Pretty Widow."

Norwood; or, Village Life in New England. By Henry Ward Beecher. 3 vols. (Low & Co.)

FROM more than one point of view Mr. Henry Ward Beecher is a man of mark. No popular preacher is in greater favour with the ladies of New York than the orator of Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, who is also no less successful as a speaker from secular platforms than as a lecturer from his peculiar pulpit. His literary publications are read with delight by his many admirers; moreover, he is the brother of Mrs. Beecher Stowe. But his present work shows that a man may be a fluent preacher, and brother of a clever woman, and yet break down when he attempts to write a novel. Had Mr. Beecher adhered to what appears to have been his original design, and given us a series of detached sketches illustrative of village life in New England, his 'Norwood' might have taken rank by the side of Miss Mitford's portraitures of village life in Berkshire; but he threw away his only chance of rendering his book acceptable to any numerous body of readers when he decided to give it the form of a long, straggling, pointless three-volume novel. That his representations of rural worthies and their ways are faithful to nature, and executed with conscientious pains, we admit; but they lack the simplicity and poetic insight of 'Our Village.' Moreover, he is guilty in a high degree of the besetting sin of popular preachers, who, more than any other class of educated men, delight in verbose utterances of commonplace thoughts. Had Mr. Beecher submitted his manuscript to a critical and fearless editor, with a view to its amendment for the press, it would have been reduced by at least one-third of its words, and would also have been relieved of numerous offences against good taste. Now that the Southerners are broken and humili-

village life disappears in the life of camps, "had been captured, and lay among our men, subject to the same kindness. In the hospital there was peace; wounds were counted as amicable settlements. The South, impulsive and unrestrained in the expression of feeling; the North, grave and self-constrained, more apt to repress than to show feeling—both carried into battle and into the hospital their peculiarities. The Southern brigades, impetuous and fiery, charged yelling and noisy. The Northern men, sometimes hurrahing, yet oftener sternly silent, put their feelings into blows. The robels wounded groaned and cried out—the surgeon's knife set loose their tongues. The Northern wounded lay quiet, suppressed their groans, fighting their pains as stubbornly and silently as they had fought the rebels." Without accusing the author of the malignity which some readers will think they discern in this allusion to suffering men who, however craven they may have been under the surgeon's knife, bore themselves right gallantly on many hard-fought fields, we cannot do otherwise than regret that the triumph of his political cause has not mollified Mr. Beecher towards its brave, though misguided, adversaries.

Capital Punishment: a Tale of the Nineteenth Century. By the Author of 'Can She Keep the Secret.' (Saunders, Otley & Co.)

This tale of the nineteenth century, by the author of 'Can She Keep the Secret,' 'The Street Singers,' 'Letty Crook,' and other works, of which the title-page of the present book is the most conspicuous memorial, relates to a murder that was perpetrated by a gentleman of Oxford education, who paid the penalty of his crime at the end of a well-adjusted rope. The story, for the purpose of this notice, may be divided into five parts, entitled The Criminal, The Victim, The Provocation, The Revenge, The Hanging-day. The criminal is Denzil Carr, member of the University of Oxford, and only son of a wealthy merchant, who purchases Basildon Priory, in Dartshire, and establishes himself as a country gentleman in the West of England. The victim is a young man named Augustus Fibb, who at the outset of the story is a house-agent and auctioneer in the neighbourhood of Basildon Priory. The provocation is the said Augustus Fibb's general disrespectfulness to the Carr family, whom he regards as mere upstarts whose quality is altogether inferior to that of long-descended county gentry. When Denzil Carr discovers that Augustus Fibb does not think much of him, he begins to thirst for vengeance and the house-agent's blood. "Denzil," says the story, "was silent from excess of passion. He never thought how foolish it was to care what Augustus Fibb said or did. His one absorbing idea was that he had done nothing but sneer at them all, and as Denzil thought again of his contemptuous looks and words, the hot blood mounted to his face, and he felt that if he met him he would strike him to the dust, and make him then and there retract his insolent words." He sneered at us, and—he must die! Such is the result of Denzil's mode of regarding the house-agent's frequent demonstrations of contempt for newlymade wealth. At last the fatal moment arrives, and Denzil kills the house-agent. Having thus disposed of his enemy, this model Oxonian has a secret interview with his sister under a yewtree. "She had not quite reached the yewtree when she was seized by a grasp so tight that it was like a shock of agony through every nerve, and for an instant a passing light from the gallery windows showed her Denzil's face, ghastly and distorted. 'Listen; don't speak!' he said, in a hoarse whisper, unlike any human

sound; 'I have murdered Augustus Fibb! Hush, I tell you, unless you want to hang me; give me what money you can, for I shall try to get away. Do you hear, Nelly, or do you mean to give me up? There is not a single moment and as he spoke she could hear his teeth chatter." The terrifying sound of his "chat-tering teeth" decides Nelly to give him all her pocket-money and trinkets; and, with the portable property thus made over to him by his sister, Denzil contrives for a time to elude the police; but he is eventually captured, brought to trial, found guilty, and sentenced to capital punishment. Then comes the execution-scene. "For the impatient, shouting crowd had assembled to see Denzil Carr die. For that exciting spectacle they had borne the hardships of the night. What wonder that they were rest less and eager? Impulsive as he was, he had counted the cost,—he had parted from his sister, had been forgiven by Mr. Fibb"—i. c., Augustus Fibb's father,—"and now he was calm and ready. The bell struck on his ear, and the words of the Burial Service were being read; but it was only at the noise outside that he quivered and shrank. How did he know that any sympathy mingled in those yells? What was there to speak to him of a single Christian heart throbbing in that ribald assemblage?"

Whether the author holds that the capital penalty should be expunged from our penal code, we do not learn from her work; but she seems to think that it was very cruel of the High Sheriff of Dartshire, through the agency of Mr. John Ketch, to hang Mr. Denzil Carr—who was a gentleman and a creature of impulse—for murdering that odious Augustus Fibb, who was only a house-agent, and had made himself extremely disagreeable. Need we say that the author of 'Can She Keep the Secret?' had better keep her name shrouded in deep and impenetrable mystery?

Missionary Life among the Jews in Moldavia, Galicia, and Silesia. Memoir and Letters of Mrs. Edward. With Preface by the Rev. A. Moody Stuart. (Hamilton, Adams & Co.)

In this volume there is the story of a life which was distinguished by much earnestness and abounding simplicity. The lady was the daughter of an old Scotch minister, by whom she was left early an orphan. Her accomplishments when she grew up enabled her to creditably fulfil the duties of a governess. Her inquiring mind took her through various churches. Ultimately, she bound herself to Calvinism and to the Free Church of Scotland, which has more of it than any other Church; whereupon a Free Church minister wooed and won the predestinarian and predestinated lady, and both sallied forth, with a piano among their baggage, to convert the Jews in Moldavia.

One conviction with which this worthy lady was impressed was, that out of the Free Church there was hardly salvation for even a Christian. She looked on foreign cities through the same coloured glasses with which she used to examine men. Vienna she describes as "a horrifying town given up to pleasure—very fine, if you look at it with the world's eye, but sickening to a Christian—overpowering!" At Belgrade she saw for the first time the crescent and white minarets; "but," she remarks, "the moment my eyes caught them, I was filled with horror and disgust." Pope and Prophet were, in her eyes, equally abominable.

The Moldavian Christian priests were in nearly as evil condition as the Moldavian Jews. Mrs. Edward declares that she never knew but one of the former who had any

acquaintance with theology, and he was kept locked up in a monastery, by order of the Metropolitan! When this well-meaning couple addressed themselves to their work, they had a difficult task. Jews came to their table, some took lessons from them, others sent their children to be instructed and clothed; others, again, thought about being baptized, and lived in the missionary's house while they were meditating, yet never coming to a conclusion. Rationalistic Jews even went so far as to confess that they would join membership with the comers from beyond sea, if these teachers would only not trouble them about the New Testament! Orthodox Jews raised riots in order to suppress the new teachers as well as their Testament. Finally, the Aga, who loved peace, and cared no more than Gallio for Christian matters, settled the question by horsewhipping the Jews and directing Mr. and Mrs. Edward to depart from Jassy. The and Mrs. Edward to depart from Jassy. The lady, rather unfairly, laid the blame on shoulders that have been made to bear more than their legal burden — "See," she says, "the variety of Satan's devices to hinder the Gospel!

This was the end of three years' labour in vain, after which the missionaries of the Free Kirk transferred themselves to Galicia, setting up "the banner of Christ," as they call it, in Lemberg. Here there were the same small mercies, a gracious opening of the door, a drawing near towards heaven, as a few Jews listened curiously to the tale told them by the sojourners. Here, too, the reformed and the orthodox Jews were at issue. The former had a clever Rabbi whom nobody could lock up in a monastery or elsewhere; so the orthodox party poisoned him-Mrs. Edward was quite sure of this! It was the habit of the obstinate orthodox Jews of Lemberg. The Free Kirk couple dreaded the death that might be in their own pot! "The orthodox are enraged," she writes. "In proportion as they know about us, we feel the necessity of keeping a watch over our kitchen; poison is a small matter here!"

And yet they made no way. It seemed as if they might as well leave, "so little seemed to be doing." Accordingly, the Lemberg Jews are denounced for their sordidness and indifference, though "interesting openings" are duly recorded, and seemed to have kept the poor apostles busy. Of what temper and quality they were for winning over the Jews may be guessed by their conduct at a Jewish wedding. They could admire the Jewish prayers and psalms; but directly the honest and merry folk took to dancing. "of course we left"!

took to dancing, "of course we left"!

The time in bemberg was "a precious seed time," we are told, but nothing came up. There was perhaps more zeal than discretion in the teachers. "You expect a Redeemer, a God," said Mrs. Edward to a beautiful young Jewess; who mildly answered, "I look for a Redeemer, but not for God." This bright young Jewess listened with open ears to all that Mrs. Edward had to communicate: but when the girl would reason in behalf of her old faith, or touch Mrs. Edward sharply with questions about the new, the female missionary remarked, that reasoning and questioning were not to be employed when an Infinite God was being revealed to her. Is it wonderful that inquirers like this beautiful Galician Jewess shook their heads and departed?

At the end of another three years much bad blood seems to have been generated throughout Austria, in consequence of the doings of these and their fellow missionaries from Scotland. The Austrian authorities hardly knew what to do with them. In the midst of their doubt, news arrived of how Barclay & Perkins's draymen had horsewhipped the

Austrian General Haynau. That was sufficient; the missionaries were driven out of the empire; and the forced journey that Mrs. Edward had to make cost her the life of a little son.

After a visit to Scotland, the missionaries next tried the Prussian patience, and pitched their tent at Breslau, in Silesia. But the Lord did not show himself; proselytes were not to be had, and the one or two Jews who were converted do not seem to have been of a satisfactory quality. At last, weary at for ever fancying they saw the ripple of the little wave that was to swell and carry Israel into the bosom of the Free Kirk, they left the reformed and orthodox Hebrews to their merited fate, and set up a Free Evangelical German Church. for all comers. Out of a Free Church, of rigid Calvinistic principles, there was, of course, no salvation. In it there was not that universal charity that takes all humanity in the arms of its love. The expressed conviction of one gentleman that Providence was not so stern as ignorance depicted Him, and that all who believed in Him, and acted up to the belief, Turk, Jew or Christian, might hope for salvation, seems to have horrified the poor lady. That anything so good for mankind should be thought to be in store for them was distressing to the Calvinistic side of her nature. About herself she had no doubt whatever. As she lay dying in Breslau, she, with wonderful presumption, did not hope for pardon, but announced that she was certainly pardoned. "Of that I am sure," were almost her last words; and they were uttered in the spirit of those ultra-religious persons who teach Divinity its office, and pronounce authoritatively on the ways of God; ways which, as they tell all others, are inscrutable!

Still, this volume, as a contribution towards the history of human character, among other things, is worth reading. Without any lack of charity or want of respect, we may close it with a smile, as we think that, after years of vain labour at trying to make Calvinistic Christians of stubborn Israelites, this most worthy lady and mother died, reckoning fewer

converts than she could babies.

Notes upon "The Representation of the People Act, 1867" (30 & 31 Vict. c. 102). With Appendices concerning the Antient Rights, the Rights conferred by the 2 & 3 Will. 4. c. 45, Population, Rental, Rating, and the Operation of the Repealed Enactments as to Compound Householders. By Thomas Chisholm Anstey, Esq., of the Middle Temple, Barrister-at-Law. (Ridgway.)

The defects in our legislation, arising in great measure from the absence of due supervision during the passage of the Bill through the two Houses of Parliament, are such, that we usually have an Amendment Act very soon after a measure of any importance comes into operation. The author desires to improve on this custom by amending the Reform Act before it comes into operation. Its operation is, as to many of its provisions, postponed to different periods, and its more important portions do not take effect until the dissolution of the present Parliament. If, then, important defects have been discovered in the Reform Act, and they are such as may be remedied without sacrificing the session to new discussion of the Reform question, it may be desirable in 1868 to cure the mistakes of 1867.

It is not surprising that the Act is open to much criticism. Never was a bill so altered in its passage. Mr. Anstey, in his Appendix, prints the Bill as introduced, and the Act as passed, distinguishing by different type the provisions of the Bill which were rejected, and

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also the new matter that was introduced. It appears that about half the Bill was struck out, and that the matter introduced in Committee is about double the amount of the matter adopted from the original Bill. That an Act thus formed by contributions from different quarters of the House should not be a model of legislation can surprise no one.

We cannot, of course, examine Mr. Anstey's objections to the new Act in detail. Some appear to us to be well founded, while others seem to be eminently unreasonable.

Of the latter kind is that which is suggested by the preamble of the Act and the clause which incorporates the existing enactments re-lating to the representation of the people. The preamble recites the expediency of amending the laws relating to the representation of the people, and the Act is to be cited as "The Representation of the People Act, 1867." The author says that an Act so entitled should have been so drafted as to suffice of itself; in other words, it should contain in itself a conother words, it should contain in itself a con-solidation of the thirty or forty Acts relating to this subject. Few will dispute the ex-pediency of avoiding reference to former sta-tutes by re-enacting their provisions in a consolidated form, where possible; but still fewer, we imagine, will fail to see that the present was an occasion on which that course was not possible. It is certain that if such an attempt had been made, it would have been impossible to have carried the Act last session. The author him-self doubts whether it could have been done in a single session, but says that the attempt should have been made. The effect of making the attempt could only have been to postpone for another year the settlement of this question. and to deprive the Ministers of the sole credit which is due to them for the determination to settle a question which had long been troublesome, and was becoming dangerous. A separate Consolidation Act would be most useful, and can be carried as well after as before, or contemporaneously with, the Reform Act.

The most important point to which the author calls attention is one which has on more than one occasion been pressed upon the House of Commons during the passage of the Bill and has been also the subject of observation elsewhere. This is the question: whether the Act, notwithstanding the rejection of Mr. Mill's motion in favour of "persons," has not, in fact, extended the right of voting to females? By the Reform Act of 1832, the franchise was vested in "male persons." Since then Lord Romilly's Act has provided that "in all Acts, words importing the masculine gender shall be deemed and taken to include fesaali be deemed and taken to include a males, unless the contrary be expressly provided." In the Act of 1867 the franchise is given to "every man of full age" who fulfils certain conditions. In answer to Mr. Denman, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, having first, the following first, the contract of the second state of the se in true Palmerstonian style, advised a more careful perusal of the Act, expressed his opinion that the contrary was therein provided. We can easily forgive Mr. Disraeli for having but a slight knowledge of the Act, seeing what a very small share he had in framing it. We cannot see where the contrary is expressed. It cannot be doubted that the words "for us and for all men" in the Church liturgy include both sexes, and it seems impossible to hold that the use of the generic term "man" amounts to an express provision that females shall be excluded. The intention of the legislature is well known; but if the Act be not amended, and some ambitious spinster be moved to claim the right of voting, it will at least cause some strain on

judicial ingenuity to carry out that intention.

Many other objections are taken, for which

we must refer to the book itself. Mr. Anstey brings to his work a considerable amount of legal knowledge. We cannot, however, speak in praise of his manner of imparting that knowledge. His analysis of the Act appears to us far from good; and the chief thing that strikes us while the author is criticizing the plan and arrangement of the statute, is the great want of plan and arrangement in the criticism.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Until the End: a Story of Real Life. By John

Pomeroy. (Wood.)

If real life were like the stories that profess to portray it, human beings would be as wavering, changing and vaporous as the clouds, and the world would fall into dissolution by reason of there world would fall into dissolution by reason of there being a total absence of common sense to control the very virtues which in most novels, and especially those of "real life," set up as idols for their heroes and heroines to worship. The present work, 'Until the End,' is not a particularly bad specimen, as novels go, of stories of real life. It is mildly interesting, and though the chief heroine, Giga, who is a ballet dancer of "the strictest principle," accepts the offer of an English gentleman to become his wife, and the head of a grand old family with a great estate, she is all the while constant to a man whom she has loved on the voluntary principle for many years, and she accepts Mr. principle for many years, and she accepts Mr. Daring only because she intends to make him transfer his affections and fortune to another lady transfer his affections and fortune to another lady who loves him very distractedly; but her intentions are frustrated by a shipwreck, in which the gentleman is drowned; and Giga, after being the guardian angel of sundry persons, joins Garibaldi, and dies of consumption, after finding the lover whom she had so long lost sight of, and who, at the eleventh hour, acknowledges his own love and her constancy. The whole story is very intricate, and too full of characters, who confuse the interest of the reader and perplex the narrative.

A New History of Rome, for the Use of Schools and Families. By E. Berkley. (Hamilton, Adams &

In a volume of moderate dimensions, the results of German investigation are here set forth with sufficient fullness for ordinary purposes, and with a degree of life and interest not generally to be found in compendiums of history. The advantage of such a work to persons preparing for examination in Roman work to persons preparing for examination in Roman history, as only one of several other subjects, and indeed all who have not time to study more than one volume, must be obvious. Based chiefly upon Mommsen's Roman History—admitted on all hands to be the best extant—this 'New History' may be safely adopted as a text-book, fully up to the acquirements and demands of the time. In one respect, it has the advantage of Mommsen's work, since it contains as an appendix the levendary his respect, it has the advantage of mommens work, since it contains, as an appendix, the legendary history, which Mommsen has omitted, and a knowledge of which is so essential to a right understanding of Latin literature. The various constitutional changes and fluctuations of political party are carefully and clearly described throughout the history; and a second appendix gives useful infor-mation with regard to the functions of the different magistrates, the laws affecting the constitution, magistrates, the laws affecting the constitution, and the great battles, with their results, chronologically arranged in a tabular form. The quotations from different authors, placed at the head of the chapters, might as well have been omitted.

Christian Heroes of the Army and Navy. By the Rev. Charles Rogers, LL.D. (Low & Co.)
These brief notices of 'Christian Heroes,' collected together, make a pleasant and useful gift book when it is desired that the gift shall be of a religious tendency. There is not much told in the way of biographical incident, and it is surprising how completely the real human interest is taken away the private interventional control of the control of th to give place to pious ejaculations and religious ervations. The narrative of the secret trials and failures of good men, the story of their inner life, would, no doubt, lack the roundness and completeness of heroism; but it would gain in vital truth, and stand a chance of being a real help and comfort to readers who are still in the toil and fray of life's

battle. It would even be a comfort to be told that they who, having finished their fight and put off their armour, were not in the same trim array as they are presented by biographers, but soiled and travel-stained like other mortal men. One charm in hearing about religious soldiers and sailors is that they have been trained to despise fear, and that death, which is so much insisted upon as a motive for repentance in most sermons, has no terror for them. They are not to be made religious by threats.

The Modern Practical French Grammar, by M. Michel, B.A. (Simpkin), is a comprehensive and useful book, containing correct and distinct information on the pronunciation, accidence, and syntax of the language, with numerous exercises well adapted to assist the learner in reading, writing and speaking French. To accustom him to French conversation, each French exercise is followed by a set of French questions on it, which he has to study and answer in French. Both the French and English exercises are moderate in length, and consist of carefully selected sentences, which not only serve the purpose of illustrating the grammar, but are in substance fitted to interest and instruct. There are also useful hints as to the proper method of commencing, concluding and addressing letters, with models for imitation. Yet, with this abundance of varied information, the with this abundance of varied unformation, and book is of a very convenient size, contrasting favourably in this respect with M. Havet's works, to which has just been added, How to Turn English into Good French: French Composition (Simpkin), into Good French: French Composition (Simpkin), consisting of extracts from English writers to be translated into French. Assistance is afforded by notes and references to M. Havet's other works. There are also passages of French to be altered, and others with vacant spaces to be filled up with words or portions of words, which we do not value so highly as the models of French epistolary writing with which the volume concludes. We omitted to mention that some of the English extracts are from American authors, which is extracts are from American authors, which is rather a new and, perhaps, useful feature.

We have on our table Wonderful Inventions, from the Mariners' Compass to the Electric Telegraph Cable, by John Timbs; with Engravings (Routledge),—Santorin. The Kaimeni Islands, from Observations by K. Fritsch, W. Reiss, and A. Stübel. Translated from the German (Trübner),— The Friendly Visitor, 1867, Illustrated (Seeley, Jackson & Halliday). Also the following pam-phlets: Nocturnal Sermons on a Variety of Social phiets: Nocturnal Sermons on a Variety of Social Topics, preached in his Dreams by the Archbishop of Onecropolis (Bumpus),—Civil Service of the United States, Reprinted from the 'North American Review' for October, 1867 (Boston, Ticknor & Fields),—The Proposed Alteration in Steering and Sailing Rules, by Capt. Fremantle (Harrison & Sons),—Description of the System of Copper Sheathing Iron Vessels by the Process of M. Roux (James),—A Winter Journey from Gloucester to Norway (Trübner),—Intercolonial Exhibition Es-Norway (Iradner),—Interconduct Editorium Essays, 1866. Notes on the Climate of Victoria, by Robert L. J. Ellery (Melbourne, Steam Printing Works),—The River Plate (South America) as a Field for Emigration: its Geography, Climate, Agricultural Capabilities, and the Facilities afforded to Democrat Science. Agricultural Capabilities, and the Factilities agricultural for Permanent Settlement; with Maps (Trübner),
—The Poetry of the Arabs of Spain, by G. J.
Adler (New York, Wynkoop & Hallenbeck),
—Maximilian's Execution Discussed in a Brief Review of Mexican History, by Edmund Stephenson (Wilson),—Fifteenth Annual Report to the Council of the City of Manchester on the Working of the Public Free Libraries (Manchester Guardian Office), and A Suggestion for a British Decimal Currency, and Decimal System of Accounts; the Integral Unit being One Pound Imperial, value Forty Shillings, by C. A. Manning (Smith & Elder).

#### GIFT BOOKS.

Masterpieces of Italian Art: Twenty-six Photo-graphs. With Memoirs of the Painters. (Bell & Daldy.)

BEGINNING with Cimabue, and ending with Guido, this superb volume reproduces enough of the glory of the great phase of design to which it refers to render an extremely satisfactory account of its

growth, elevation and decay. The text is written with clearness, sufficient knowledge in selecting apt, but by no means recondite, materials, and fair recognition of the true nature of the great subject.

It is a good sign of popular knowledge of painting
when a book which is produced to be given away will honestly stand, as this work does, an applica tion of the old saw about a gift-horse and his We write thus with special reference the choice of subjects for the photographs, which evince considerable feeling for Art and much tact in recognizing the needs of the better order of taste. We should have preferred better reproductions than those which stand for Da Vinci's Supper' and one or two more of the pictures before with these exceptions, however, the beauty of the engravings that have been employed and the brilliancy of the photographs leave nothing to be desired. Among them we have Pinturicchio's 'Virgin and Child,' the Louvre picture, and from the Government engraving; Fra Bartolomeo's 'Madonna Enthroned,' in San Marco, Florence; M. Angelo's 'Cartoon of Pisa,' after Schievonetti; the Ansidei 'Holy Family,' by Raphael; Del Sarto's 'Nativity of the Virgin,' and transcripts of Titian, Giorgione, P. Veronese, Luini, Correggio, and others at their best. We must say a few words of admiration for the capitally-designed binding of this book. It is first-rate in beauty of its kind.

Scotland, her Songs and Scenery. With Photographs. (Bennett.)

This book comprises, by means of the camera, fourteen transcripts from sites of lyric fame. It is a very pretty gift-book, the only bad part of which is the binding.

The Book of Common Prayer. (Rivingtons.) This work is illustrated by borders designed by Mr. R. R. Holmes, which, although by no means without defects, are, on the whole, suited to the subject, and in good taste. Least of all the ornamental elements we like the little human figures and portions of them, which appear here and there. The white binding of this volume is pretty.

Contemporary French Painters: an Essay. By P. G. Hamerton. With Sixteen Photographs.

P. G. Hamerton, with Sixteen Photographs. (Seeley, Jackson & Halliday.)

APART from the egotism of the author, who begins this book with a Preface which is full of his own merits—we have nothing but praise for this excellent and discriminating account of certain well-known French artists and their works. The frequent cropping up of the writer's self in the body of the book is much less ungraceful, though even less needed than in the self-asserting introduction; and it is so because he, with uncon scious but almost comical solemnity, imparts experiences and convictions which are those of every intelligent English student in French ateliers. These are new to the general reader, and so are apt to the book. The text opens on the subject of classicism in French Art, and treats with much acumen on David, his aims and pictures; with his pupil Ingres, a recent classic, whose genius in that direction would have been better illustrated by a transcript of 'La Source,' than by the photograph of 'Leonardo da Vinci's Death,' a by no means characteristic picture, for which the author rightly avows his distaste. Mr. Hamerton gives us a fine criticism on Delacroix, the father—if Géricault was not so—of that romanticism which is opposed to the classicism of David and his school. We are the classicism of David and his school. glad to find so sound and well-considered a summary as this of Delacroix, because he was really the light of recent French design. H. Vernet is equally well analyzed from the author's point of view, which is not quite our own. Protais is rightly placed in a high rank as a pathetic military painter. Faint as is the writer's applause for Ary Scheffer, that idol of sentimental amateurs and very imperfect artist, we dissent from his estimate of him as heartily as we agree in what is written about Troyon, one of the few modern great masters. We should have desired more about Courbet, and something about J. Breton and Daubigny; but we gladly notice a promise of future reference to painters whose works are here omitted on account of the plan of the book. BOOKS FOR CHILDREN.

Upside Down; or, Turnover Traits. From Original Sketches. By the late William M'Connell. With Illustrative verses by Tom Hood. (Griffith &

THE clever designer of these humorous drawings has been taken from us at an early age; but his last work has suffered from no want of ability or care on the part of the gentle sister and true friend who are its joint editors. "I have little more to add," observes Miss Annie M'Connell in her brief preface, "save my thanks to those who, out of regard for my dear brother's memory, have kindly aided in preparing the book for publication. I wish to express my gratitude, both to Mr. Hood for enhancing the value of the little work by the verses he has written for it, and to the artists who have taken such pains to reproduce the spirit and intention of the sketches-a task the difficulty of which will be fully appreciated by all who glance at the illustrations." Mr. Hood's verses display the facility and gracefulness that usually distinguish his humorous trifles, and they fully accomplish their object in explaining a series of comic pictures that will convulse children with laughter, and amuse their elders.

Barford Bridge; or, Schoolboy Trials. By the Rev. H. C. Adams, M.A. With Illustrations. (Rout-

ledge & Sons.) THOUGH 'Barford Bridge' is not inferior to the best of Mr. Adams's several previous tales of schoolboy life, we are inclined to think that the author is using his unquestionable powers to small purpose in repeating the effort which gained him his first literary honours. Had the success of his famous picture of Arnold's Rugby induced Mr. Thomas Hughes to produce annually a new version of that healthy work, he would have lessened its effect, and exposed himself to a charge of expending too much of his labour and life on matters of comparatively trivial moment. Mr. Adams is doing that which the member for Lambeth has wisely refrained from doing. His 'Barford Bridge' is wholesome, vigorous, manly—as everything that comes from his pen is sure to be; but its merits dispose us all the more to renew a hint which we gave some time since to its author in a spirit of kindliness and respect.

School Days at Saxonhurst. By "One of the Boys."

(Edinburgh, Black.)
TALES illustrative of life in boys' schools are so abundant, and many of them are of so high a degree of merit, that we can afford to be critical with regard to such trifles, and discountenance the production of inferior stories of their not important kind. This narrative of doings at Saxonhurst is poor stuff; so poor, indeed, that we should like to cob, or bolster, or snow-ball the boy who is accountable for its appearance.

Old Merry's Annual: Merry and Wise. Edited by Old Merry.—Our Christmas Party. By Old

Merry. (Jackson, Walford & Hodder.)
Time and Old Merry have a good mutual understanding: each treats the other handsomely, if, the power whom he instructs young people to kill with jests and games and uproarious laughter. Anyhow, Time does not seem to resent the measures taken for his amicable destruction by Old Merry, who thrives on his special occupation, and grows stronger, heartier, and more frolicsome every year he sees in and out. "Now," says the jolly and sagacious veteran, chirping about his pro-sperity as we wish all lucky fellows would chirp over their reasons for thankfulness, "a word or two about our magazine. We are advancing; our 'staff' is larger, our circulation is better, our correspondents are more numerous, our waste-paper basket is bigger, our postage-stamp bill is heavy, and our prospects are brighter." Right glad are we to hear that Mr. Merry can give so brave an account of his affairs; for public support is due to the caterer of wholesome amusement for little folk, for whose behoof he calls to his assistance such writers as Messrs. W. H. G. Kingston, R. M. Ballantyne, Edwin Hodder, J. S. Clifford, R. Hope Moncrieff, and Lieut. C. R. Low. Having made his annual for 1868 larger and brighter, as

well as wiser and merrier, than its preceding volumes, the hearty old man expends his surpli energy in producing the story of a certain Christ-mas party, at which he entertained a company of boys and girls with charades and tales.

Rodwell's Child's First Step to the History of England. Continuation of History, by Miss Corner. Questions for Examination. A Chronological Table and Index. Events to be Remembered in every Successive Reign. By Edward Farr. New Edition. Revised and Corrected. Illustrated, (Dean & Son.

HOWEVER widely our more discreet writers of English history for nurslings may differ in their selections of facts that they would fain impart to young minds, there are some events and questions which they unanimously concur in regarding as matters about which little children should not be troubled. For instance, no judicious scribe, preparing a brief sketch of Queen Victoria's reign for the enlightenment of little six-year-old pupils, would think of cumbering the narrow space allotted to so great a subject with references to Irish discon tents, and one-sided statements of the recent Jamaican disturbances. What do children need to know about Fenianism or Paul-Bogleism? Miss Rodwell and her coadjutor, Miss Corner, however, feel it incumbent on them, as historians for the young, to write about West Indian politics in the following strain:—"You know that Jamaica, in the West Indies, belongs to our Queen. It was once a very flourishing colony. Many years ago the labourers were slaves; but our Parliament passed a law which made them free. Since that time they have been treated as fellow subjects. They ought to be a happy and contented people; but I am sorry to tell you they are not. They want the island to themselves; and, urged by some white men who ought to have known better, they planned a massacre of the English who lived there. I am happy to tell you, however, that the plan was not carried out; for it was discovered, and many of them lost their lives through their folly. Passing from Jamaica to Ireland, these sagacious ladies remark :- "The Irish have always been a discontented people. There is no pleasing them as a body. . . . It is very wicked of the Irish to be so discontented, for I am sure our Queen wishes to make them happy. But, after all, there was not much to fear from the Fenians. Their scheme, like that of the blacks in Jamaica, was found out, and many of them were punished for their wickedness." These same teachers of the their wickedness." young are of opinion that Charles the First was
"a truly good and pious man," whose greatest
faults were "a hasty temper and too much pride," to which defects they attribute "all his sorrows." Of the Commonwealth they remark, "So while Cromwell ruled in England there were no holidays kept. The country people did not dare to dance round their maypoles on May-day, as they had been used to do; and at Christmas no one might play at forfeits, or blindman's buff, or any merry game. It was a dull time, and every one got tired of it." It is well that such a book as this ridiculous manual should appear once in a while to remind us how foolish people may be when they have learnt to spell.

Chatterbox. Edited by J. Erskine Clarke, M.A.

(Macintosh.)
'Chatterbox' is the name of a weekly budget of Consterbox' is the name of a weekly budget of prose fiction, essays, poetry, and pictures, designed for the entertainment of the young people of our less prosperous classes, and offered to buyers at the very low price of a halfpenny per number. The literary element of the publication is, in some respects, meritorious; and many of our cleverest lilustrators of cheap literature are aroungst that respects, meritorious; and many of our development illustrators of cheap literature are amongst the artists who embellish its pages with engravings of more than average goodness. The volume for the past year may be commended warmly to the notice of buyers of presents for the older children of poor families. Here is one of its stories that shows how the sensational method has been adopted by the writers of moral tales to whose religious tone even the Archbishop of York would make no exception. "A Noble Revenge .- The coffin was a plain one-a poor miserable pine

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one. No flowers on its top, no lining of white sain for the pale brow. The sufferer from cruel poverty had found rest and peace. 'I want to see my mother,' sobbed a poor child, as the city undertaker screwed down the lid.—'You can't—get out of the way, boy.'—'Only let me see her one minute,' cried the helpless orphan, as he gazed into that rough face, and tears streamed down the cheek on which no childish bloom ever lingered. Oh! it was pitiful to hear him cry 'Only once, let me see my mother only once!' Quickly the hard-hearted monster struck him. The boy stood panting with grief and rage; his blue eyes flashed, his lips sprang apart; he raised his puny arm, and with a most unchildish accent screamed, 'When I am a man I will kill you for that.'

\* \* The Court-house was crowded to suffocation. 'Does any one appear as this man's counsel? asked the judge. There was a silence when he finished, until, with his lips tightly pressed together—a look of strange intelligence, blended with haughty reserve, from his face—a young man stepped forward with firm tread and kindling eyes, to plead for the erring and friendless prisoner at the bar. He was a stranger, but from his first sentence there was a stranger, but from his first sentence there was a stranger, but from his first sentence there was a stranger, but from his first sentence there was a stranger, but from his first sentence there was a stranger, but from his first sentence there was a stranger, but from his first sentence there was a stranger, but from his first sentence there was a stranger, but from his first sentence there was a stranger, but from his first sentence there was a stranger, but from his first sentence there was a stranger, but from his first sentence there was a stranger, but from his first sentence there was a stranger, but from his first sentence there was a stranger, but from his first sentence there was a stranger, but from his first sentence there was a stranger and his mother's coffin. I was that miserable boy.'' Man, I will refresh your m

did not tell their moral tales in this style.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Alexander's Bealms of Life, Symo. 1/6 cl.

Arthur's Beacon Lights, Ismo. 1/6 cl.

Bank's Stang to the Quick, a North Country Story, 3 vols. 31/6

Bertie Lee, or the Doorway of Life, Svo. 1/6 cl.

Beachum's William Farel and Swiss Reform, 12mo. 3/6 cl.

Beachum's William Farel and Swiss Reform, 12mo. 3/6 cl.

Beachum's William Farel and Swiss Reform, 12mo. 3/6 cl.

Beachum's William Farel and Swiss Reform, 12mo. 3/6 cl.

Beachum's William Farel Light Thoughts and Themes, 8vo. 5/

Beachum's William Farel Light Thoughts and Semitic Base, 2/

Campbell's Poetical Works, with Notes by Hill, 8vo. 1/6 cl.

Campbell's Poetical Works, with Notes by Hill, 8vo. 1/6 cl.

Campbell's Poetical Works, with Notes by Hill, 8vo. 1/6 cl.

Campbell's Poologue, Knights Tale, &c., ed. by Morris, 18mo. 2/6

Christian Casket, a Sunday Treasury, Szmo. 1/6 cl.

Chains for the Neck, a Text Book for &c. &c., royal Svo. 2/ cl.

Chains for the Neck, a Text Book for &c. &c., royal Svo. 2/ cl.

Chains a Casket, a Sunday Treasury, Szmo. 1/6 cl.

Diller's Dawn of Heaven, 22mo. 1/6 cl.

Dean's New Model Book of the Farmer, &c. royal Svo. 2/ bds.

Dean's New Model Book of the Farmer, &c. royal Svo. 2/ bds.

Dean's New Model Book of the Farmer, &c. royal Svo. 2/ bds.

Dean's New Model Book of the Farmer, &c. royal Svo. 2/ bds.

Dean's New Mutual Friend, cr. 8vo. 5/6 cl.

Dean's New Mutual Friend, cr. 8vo. 5/6 cl.

Dean's William State Sketches of the Inhabitants, &c. of Ceylon, 50/cl.

Delean's Our Mutual Friend, cr. 8vo. 5/6 cl.

Aramigham's Life Sketches and Echoes from Valleys, 2nd ser. 2/6

Penale Characters of Goother from Kaubach, fol. 7t. 2c. cl.

Gadell's North and South, Hust. cr. 8vo. 6/6 cl.

Aramigham's Life Sketches and Echoes from Valleys, 2nd ser. 2/6

Penale Characters of Goother from Kaubach, fol. 7t. 2c. cl.

Gadell's North and South, Hust. cr. 8vo. 6 LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

At the Anniversary Meeting of the Royal Society, held last Saturday, the President, General Sabine, after referring to the heavy loes the Society had sustained by the death of three of their most distinguished Fellows,—two of them, the Earl of Rosse and Lord Wrottesley, his predecessors in the chair; the other, Faraday,—mentioned that the first volume of the 'Catalogue of Scientific Papers' was lying on the table before him. This Catalogue, as our readers will remember, has been for some years in preparation under superintendence of a Committee of the Royal Society, and the publication of the first volume, which contains the titles of papers, under the authors' names, from A to Clu, will be regarded with great satisfaction by all who study or cultivate science. The printing of the subsequent volumes will now be steadily carried on until completion.

General Sabine then reviewed the steps taken, at the request of Government, for the reorganization of the Meteorological Department of the Board of Trade, and explained that the measures suggested, as stated in his last year's address, had been so far put into a practical form that, with the beginning of 1868, five of the proposed observatories—Falmouth, Kew, Stonyhurst, Armagh and Glasgow—will commence operations, and that in all probability Valentia and Aberdeen will be added to the list a month or two later. All these observatories are to be supplied with self-recording instruments, all constructed on the same plan, whereby the essential condition, "a full, accurate, and continuous record of meteorological phenomena at certain selected stations," will be statisfied, and, as is thought, the most effectual means will be taken for "supplying a secure and adequate basis for the discussion of the variations of the weather in the British Islands." The observations to be made will comprise the temperature, pressure, electric and hygrometric state of the atmosphere, and the direction and force of wind, and the records thereof will be regularly forwarded to the Meteorological Department of the Board of Trade, where they will be reduced and combined and applied to the general

study of the phenomena.

By desire of the Government, a Committee of eight Fellows of the Royal Society, who give their services gratuitously, superintend generally the work of the Department. Assuming that the requisite supplies for continuing the work will be voted by Parliament, they will continue their services, and proceed, as General Sabine shows, to trace the variations of the weather as presented in the records from the extreme west of Ireland to the east of Scotland, and from Aberdeen in the north to Falmouth in the south, and as connected with telegrams from different ports, and with information received from abroad. By this means, such a knowledge of the laws of the variations may be acquired as will enable meteorologists gradually, and so far as may be possible, to place the practice of forecasting the weather on a sound and trustworthy basis. Meanwhile, the Committee will endeavour to make the daily information they receive as to the state of weather on different parts of the coast available for the benefit of mariners.

As a good deal of misconception prevails on this particular, we give the details in General Sabine's own words:—"A copy of the information," he remarks, "is transmitted, by the first post after its reception, to any port which desires to receive it. If the authorities at any port require any special telegraphic intelligence, it is furnished to them without unnecessary delay, on their agreeing to defray half the cost of transmission of the message, and stating the precise nature of the information required. Lastly, the Committee are prepared to convey, free of cost, telegraphic intelligence of the existence of any serious atmospherical disturbance which may have come to their knowledge, to all ports to which it appears to them that such information would be of importance. Such a telegram may be, for example:—"Storm from West at Penzance and South Coast."—On the receipt of such a message, the local authorities are expected to hoist a drum as a general warning, on seeing which masters of vessels or other interested persons may learn by inquiry at

the local office (or by other arrangements) the precise nature of the information received, together with any additional particulars which may have been transmitted from the central office. It is clearly understood by all parties that any telegraphic message of a warning nature (like the example here mentioned) is merely meant to imply that there is a serious atmospherical disturbance existing along a certain region of coast, and consequently that there is, or may be, danger impending in other districts. The telegraphic messages, which are now limit to a notice of 'existing futes', are obviously capble of extension hereafter, in proportion as the basis upon which sound meteorological anticipations may rest shall be enlarged; and this we may reasonably hope for, as one of the fruits of the establishment and action of the 'Land Meteorological Observatories.'"

To this we have only to add, that all the telegraph stations from which information is received have been inspected, with a view to ascertain whether the instruments and other appliances on whose indications the information is based were such as could be depended on. The rectifications in some instances required have now been made, so that henceforth the Central Office will receive trustworthy telegrams.

The arrangement here set forth will, we think, prove satisfactory to that large portion of our population who are immediately interested in the much debated question of storm-warnings.

Astronomers will be glad to learn, on the President's authority, that the four-feet reflecting telescope, constructed by Grubb, of Dublin, for the Observatory at Melbourne, is so nearly completed, that it will be ready for shipment to the antipodes early in the coming year. A paper, by the Rev. Dr. Robinson, of Armagh, descriptive of this magnificent instrument, was read at the opening meeting of the Royal Society's session, from which we gather that its performance is all that could be desired; and that Mr. Le Sueur, who has been appointed Observer, has so thoroughly mastered all its details, that we may expect in good time a rich harvest of observations from the southern hemisphere.

sphere.

Another astronomical topic is, that next year will be signalized by a total eclipse of the sun of almost the longest possible duration; and that the President and Council of the Royal Society, taking advantage of so rare an opportunity for observation of the physical phenomena of an eclipse, have had constructed and sent out to India suitable instruments for the purpose, including spectroscopes, prisms, and actinometers. The observations, under sanction of Col. Walker, Director of the Great Trigonometrical Survey of India, will be made by officers employed on the Survey—principally Mr. Hennessey, first assistant, and Lieut. Herschel (son of Sir J. Herschel), both of whom are well qualified for their delicate task. As the place of observation will be Mussoorie, in the clear atmosphere of the hills, 7,000 feet above the sea, the prospect of a satisfactory result may be regarded as very hopeful.

Under the sanction of the Government of Mauri-

Under the sanction of the Government of Mauritius and of the Colonial Office, a magnetical observatory is to be built at Mauritius, and equipped with the newest instruments, which have been practised with at Kew by the Director of the Observatory, Dr. Meldrum, who, on his return from a visit to the chief magnetical and meteorological observatories of Europe, will go back to the island fully prepared to take account of all the phenomena of magnetism and climate of that interesting locality. Self-recording magnetical instruments are also employed in the Observatory at Melbourne, and the question of their introduction into the Observatory at Bombay is now before the Colonial Office. Mr. Airy, Astronomer Royal, to whom the question of the Indian Observatories had been referred in the first instance, says, in his official answer, which has been printed by the Bombay Government, "I should certainly recommend that any new magnetic observatory be furnished with magnetic instruments on the pattern of those at Kew."

The remainder of General Sabine's address was taken up with a review of Mr. Abel's researches on Gun-cotton; with the re-measurement and exten-

sion of Lacaille's Arc of the Meridian in South Africa, by Sir Thomas Maclear, Astronomer at the Cape of Good Hope, and by a statement of the grounds on which the medals for the present year

were awarded by the Council.

The Society then elected the following as Officers and Council for the year ensuing:—President, Lieut.
Gen. E. Sabine: Treasurér, Dr. W. A. Miller;
Secretaries, Dr. W. Sharpey and G. G. Stokes, Esq.;
Poreign Secretary, Prof. W. H. Miller; other
Members of the Council, F. A. Abel, Esq., Dr. W. B. Carpenter, Prof. A. Cayley, J. L. Clarke, Esq., J. Evans, Esq., Capt. D. Galton, J. P. Gassiot, Esq., Dr. J. H. Gladstone, Sir Rowland Hill, W. Huggins, Esq., Prof. T. H. Huxley, Prof. J. Phillips, Prof. A. C. Ramsay, Col. W. J. Smythe, Lieut. Col. A. Strange, and Dr. T. Thomson; and after wards adjourned in goodly number to Willis's Rooms, where the anniversary dinner was served in excellent style.

#### ARTISTIC COPYRIGHT.

ENGRAVERS have had copyright in their works from 1734, and sculptors in theirs since 1798. But those who take an interest in this subject will probably remember that it was only so recently as 1862 that a similar measure of justice was extended to painters. After endless trouble and much expense in thoroughly sifting the subject in all its bearings, the Society of Arts had sufficient influ-ence to satisfy the Government of the existing mischiefs. The result was that "An Act for amending the law relating to Copyright in works of the Fine Arts, and for repressing the commission of fraud in the production and sale of such works, became law in the United Kingdom from the 29th of July, 1862. The act commences thus:-" Whereas by law as now established the authors of paintings, drawings and photographs have no copyright in such their works, and it is expedient that the law should in that respect be amended." The act then proceeds to give copyright to "the author, being a British subject, or resident within the dominions of the Crown, of every original painting, drawing and photograph which shall be or shall have been made either in the British dominions or elsewhere, and which shall not have been sold or disposed of before the commencement of this act. and his assigns."

Pecuniary penalties are imposed for infringement of the copyright thereby given; and all unlawful "repetitions, copies and imitations, and all negatives of photographs made for the purpose of obtaining such copies, are forfeited to the proprietor of the copyright." And such penalties, unlawful copies, &c., forfeited by offenders pursuant to that act, and pursuant to any act for the protection of copyright engravings, may be recovered by the proprietor of the copyright in England and Ireland by action, or by summary proceeding before magistrates; and in Scotland by action before the Court of Session, or by summary action before the sheriff.

No instance, so far as we know, has hitherto occurred of any repetition, copy or imitation of an original painting or drawing having been recovered by summary proceeding pursuant to the above provision. There is consequently strong ground for hope that both the unlawful as well as the fraudulent production of repetitions, copies and imitations of original drawings and paintings which existed prior to this act of 1862 have greatly diminished. The consequences are now too serious for any person to be a party to any such act who has the slightest

regard for his reputation.

On the other hand, there seems good reason to believe that the fraudulent production of photographic copies from engravings and from original photographs has rapidly and largely increased. This arises from the cheapness and facility of production, and the large profits made upon the sale of such copies. Two cases have recently occurred in which the proprietor of copyright in engravings and pictures has obtained relief for the piracy thereof by means of photographic copies. In both cases such relief was obtained by summary proceeding before a magistrate,—Mr. Graves, the welling before a magistrate,—Mr. Graves, the wellknown print-seller, being the complainant, and a
commercial traveller named John William Hall
would not only be an act of justice due to British

being the defendant. In the first case it seems that, having failed to attend repeated summonses issued against him, he was ultimately captured under a warrant, and brought before the magistrate at Bow Street. He was charged by Mr. Graves with offering for sale photographic copies of five of his copyright engravings, viz., 'The Railway Station,' from Mr. Frith's picture; 'A Piper and Pair of Nutcrackers,' from Sir Edwin Landseer's: Vows,' from Mr. Calderon's; and 'The First Seras well as 'The Second Sermon,' from Mr. Millais's pictures. The acts of piracy complained of were admitted. The magistrate, Mr. Vaughan, said that in his opinion the full penalty of 10l. for each offence was little enough. But as he was asked upon both sides to mitigate the penalties, and as it was urged that his doing so would afford a prompter remedy under the Small Penalties Act, he should on this occasion only impose a fine of 51. in each case, or in default of payment one month's imprisonment in each case, each term of imprisonment to take effect after the other. The fines were immediately paid, and the pirated copies in question, which the defendant had offered for sale, were ordered to be given up to Mr. Graves. Shortly afterwards the same delinquent, John William Hall, again appeared before Mr. Vaughan, to answer ten ummonses charging him with infringing the copyrights of ten original pictures, such copyrights being the property of Mr. Graves. The pictures included those above mentioned. It was proved that such copyrights had been registered at Stationers' Hall; that they were the property of the com-plainant; that the defendant had offered for sale photographic copies of all the ten pictures in question ; and that such photographs had been made without the permission of Mr. Graves. The magistrate in flicted a fine of 5l. in each case, which the defendant immediately paid. Upon the first of the above occasions when this man, John William Hall, appeared before the magistrate, it was stated that there had been found in his possession half a hundredweight of photographs, most of which were piracies of engravings published by Mr. Graves. Unfortunately, as the law at present stands, the police had no power to seize any of those photographs, and the defendant removed them.

We think it right to call attention to these facts. for the purpose of again showing the grievous injury to which painters, engravers, photographers, and the purchasers of their works are exposed, and the inadequate protection afforded by law against the piracy of their property. The principle established by the above Act of 1862 in giving copyright in original pictures, drawings and photographs is quite right; but the machinery afforded by that Act for efficiently protecting such property is lamentably defective. Considering that the closest and most perfect imitations of engravings of every description are now produced by means of photography, and sold for about as many shillings as the engravings cost guineas, the result is ruinous to the publishers of the latter, and consequently inflicts a great injury upon artists. So long as such a state of things continues, it is idle to suppose that publishers can afford to pay adequate prices for copyrights of pictures, and for engraving them. It certainly does seem monstrous that nearly half a hundredweight of piratical copies should be found in a man's possession, and which, by the Act of 1862, are declared to be the property of the proprietor of the copyrights invaded by such copies; yet that the law affords him no means of causing them instantly to be seized and taken before a magistrate for adjudication. If not so liable to seizure, of course the proprietor has a very remote prospect of recovering them.

There are now no less than nine Acts and parts of Acts of Parliament relating to artistic copyright, while the machinery afforded by them is most imperfect and inefficient for the purpose of protecting the very large and valuable properties which have been created by virtue of these Acts. It has therefore become of the greatest importance to the proprietors of artistic copyrights that the Acts in

subjects, but it would likewise be paying a debt of honour which England owes to other nation with whom Her Majesty has entered into International Copyright Conventions upon the principle of reciprocity. At present, the proprietors of British copyrights are admirably protected by the laws of several foreign States against the infringements of their rights there; but the proprietors of foreign copyrights are most inefficiently protected by our laws. Is this creditable to the Crown or to the

#### MR. W. C. HAZLITT.

44, Dover Street, Dec. 3, 1867. Mr. Hazlitt has shown in his rejoinder to our letter, which emphatically denied his claims to the editorship of our new edition of Lamb's Works and Letters, certain signs of a want of reflection and of a want of temper. We stated that he took the very unusual course of insisting on payment before the book could be brought to press, and we have shown-by the mere fact of paying another editor -that the work we employed Mr. Hazlitt to do was, in our view, performed so very unsatisfac-torily, that it had to be commenced de novo. Want of reflection has caused Mr. Hazlitt to overlook the fact that he has not attempted to deny these assertions in his tedious letter, and in the truth of them, as we take it, all public interest on the subject begins and ends. A want of temper has led Mr. Hazlitt into hasty and erroneous inferences, which are not worth notice, much less contradiction; and into the arena of invective, where we purpose to leave him. For his precise place and position in the world of letters, are they not settled in the critical columns of all your contemporaries?

EDWARD MOXON & Co.

#### EXPLORATION OF DARIEN

4, Westminster Chambers, Nov. 28, 1867. I have been much struck by the letters of Dr. Berthold Seemann, Lieut. Oliver, R.A., and Dr. Cullen, on the Exploration of Darien, which have lately appeared in the Athenœum; and it is with very considerable regret that I am compelled to throw cold water on a project quite in accord with feelings and tastes which have become almost a second nature to me from long and intimate acquaintance with Central America.

Dr. Seemann is quite right in supposing that there would not be the slightest objection on the part of the "Central American Association" of London as regards making that company's property, the Bayano Estate, a basis or starting-point for the exploring parties; and I will go a step further, and say that I do not doubt that a goodly sum of money could be raised very speedily for an object which cannot fail at the least to add largely to our geogra-phical and general knowledge. But there happens to exist a very formidable difficulty, in the shape of a clause in the new Charter of the Panama Railway Company, which will effectually stop the way; and as it is very desirable that neither the persons nor purses of our countrymen should suffer by embark ing on a fruitless exploration, I beg leave to quote the clause in question for the especial behoof of all whom it may concern.—"Contract reforming that of April 15, 1850, for the construction of a Railroad from one Ocean to the other across the Isthmus of Panama; done at Bogotà, United States of Colombia, 16th August, 1867.—Art. 2. The Government of the Republic binds itself, during the period that this exclusive privilege granted to the company for the working of the railroad remains in force, not to construct itself, or concede to any person or company in any way whatever the right of constructing, any other railroad on the Isthmus of Panama and it is also stipulated that, while the aforesaid privilege exists, the Government cannot undertake, nor permit any person whatever to undertake, with out the permission or consent of said company, the construction or working of any ocean canal that may put in communication the two oceans across the 1sthmus of Panama, to the westward of a line from Cape Tiburon, on the Atlantic, and Port Garashine, on the Pacific. But it is stipulated that the right granted to the company to give its consent does not extend to the opposing the construction of a canal across the Isthmus of Panama

only to ex and as an railroad c or compet sum exac it shall b Panama, ment and of non-agr whose dec their deci eideration and the r they shall ust and e that may one half half to t whole ter have the Isthmus o Article 2, to the ot itself not i undertake macadami for the u oceans ac ever, well this artic manner ] any system stated, or ment of

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(except on the actual route of said railroad), but | only to exact an equitable price for said privilege, and as an indemnification for the losses which the railroad company might suffer from the opposition or competition of the canal. If the Government of the United States of Colombia should consider the the United States of Colombia should consider the sum exacted by the company not equitable, then it shall be fixed by arbitrators in New York or Panama, one of them appointed by the Government and the other by the company; and in case of non-agreement, the two shall name a third, whose decision shall be without appeal. In making their decision the arbitrators shall take interest. their decision the arbitrators shall take into con sideration the ground on which the company rests and the report that will be given by the Govern-ment on the matter; and, having these in view, they shall decide, without appeal, what they believe they small decide; without appear, what they octube that may be definitely decided on, shall belong, one half to the railroad company and the other half to the Government.—Art. 5. During the whole term of this privilege the company shall have the exclusive right of establishing across the Isthmus of Panama, within the zone expressed in Article 2, any kind of carriage-road from one ocean to the other. The Colombian Government binds itself not to permit any other company or person to undertake within said zone any other carriage-road, macadamized or plank, or any other kind suitable for the use of wheel carriages between the two oceans across the Isthmus of Panama. It is, how ever, well understood that the privilege of which this article treats cannot, and must not, in any manner prevent the construction of roads, of any system, in a direction different from the above stated, or the completion, preservation and improvement of roads which already exist or which are actually being constructed on the said Isthmus.

It is needless to say that the company having to divide the spoil with the Government, care would be taken to make the sum asked in compensation large enough; the enterprise, therefore, of opening any competing line, whether railway, tramway or canal, would be so heavily weighted from the first, as to destroy any chance of its floating com-BEDFORD PIM. mercially.

#### GREENLAND EXPLORATION. Hotel Phœnix, Copenhagen, Oct. 23, 1867.

We arrived here yesterday evening in the Hvalfisken, one of the royal merchant ships, hvainsken, one of the royal merchant sings, having had a very stormy passage. The summer in Greenland has been such as "the oldest inhabitant cannot remember," and although the memory of "the oldest inhabitant" of other parts has been frequently at fault, in this instance it is probably Our maximum temperature in the shade has ranged on many days from 65° to 77° Fahr., and our average minimum has been 42°. We have been certainly exceptionally fortunate with weather, and unhappy in other things. The epidemic, of which I wrote in a former letter, carried off about twelve per cent. of the people of Jakobshavn, and in some places it attacked the ablebodied natives to such an extent that there was not a sufficient number left to obtain the staff of life—seal-meat—for the others. As a matter of course, there were frequent occasions on which no assistance could be obtained. This deprived me of success, as some weeks of my limited time were lost. If we could have started a month earlier, you

would have heard a different story. The so-called "inland ice" of Greenland proved to be exactly as I had supposed, in all respects material to the projected journey. When we visited the point at first from which we afterwards started, it was well covered with snow, smooth and hard. It was the opinion of those who were with me-of men who were not like myself anguine at starting, that we might have travelled in the proposed manner even thirty English miles a day. When we returned, between road only ice weeks later, the snow had gone; ice—and only ice was to be seen; not smooth, but rising in waves like a troubled sea; hard, but wet, with many streamlets and even lakes upon it. Two miles of

handled with great willingness and considerable ability, were not equal to the demands which were made upon their strength. They were battered, tossed, overturned. One broke down within the distance named, another was ready to do so, and the men declared that another two miles would complete their destruction. It was evidently true; and of necessity, but with reluctance, we turned from a project which had been well considered, carefully matured, and over which I had spent labours by no means inconsiderable. If we could have started earlier, the Greenland sledges would have been sufficiently strong; or, if sledges could have been constructed out of the wood taken from England, we should certainly have been able to travel a considerable distance into the interior: this year neither one nor the other was possible. In other respects we have not done so badly, and have succeeded in the secondary objects of the journey as well as time and opportunity would permit. The sea has yielded up some of its stores, the land also, and the collection of stone implements which much grubbing in nooks and corners has produced is not only more extensive, but more perfect than anything we have yet received in England from Greenland. The botanical and other collections made by my companion, Mr. Robert Brown, will be, I believe, not only creditable to himself, but of considerable interest to others.

The "inland ice" of Dr. Rink, -the old, familiar glacier, the parent of the icebergs, the great agent that in some earlier time planed down the hills which now encircle Greenland, treating massive granite and still harder quartz equally and alike, and which has left terraced bastions now green with elastic turf, piles of rounded boulders that have travelled from land perhaps untrodden by the foot of man, which are eloquent, speaking of rocky peaks which reared their heads above the surrounding ice,-deposited these erratic boulders to such an extent that in some places the granite and gneiss mountains look from afar as rough as a ploughed field; and everywhere has set its mark in a manner not to be mistaken, almost indelibly,—this old glacier yet covers the largest portion of the land, and mounts from a small elevation, gradually, scarcely perceptibly, to a height unmeasured and unknown; exhibiting the features common to all glaciers, and others which may explain phenomena hitherto debated.

Old as it is, incalculably ancient, we cannot say primeval, when almost side by side a fossil forest is found, embracing numerous species, not of oceandrifted leaves, wanderers from other latitudes, as some have conjectured, but massed in beds to such a depth as to render it a certainty that they grew on the spot. Such a forest is found in latitude 70°, and the species involve such climatic differences as to preclude the idea that this vast mass of snow and ice always covered the land. The collections

from this place will presently speak for themselves.
Thus you see that more can be said for Greenland than one of our old Northern voyagers did who wrote on it, and that there is more to be found there than "blind rocks in this unknown country, and noisome cold weather in this waste wilderness where there are huge mountains without wood, valleys without grass, and the sea with small store of fish,"—although he added, correctly enough, "yet snow and ice there are good store in the sea and in the land"; and I hope it may be evident that summer journeys may be made, even by unlearned and ignorant men, beyond the limits of ordinary tourists, which may yield not merely exercise and amuse ment, but results of a certain value. It is my opinion, more strongly than before, that in the North much may be found explanatory and illustrative of the important "glacial period," and of those earlier conditions of man about which so many of our countrymen are at present interesting themselves.

I cannot conclude this letter without telling you that the hospitality, nay, the generosity, of the Greenland Danes has been more than Danish. This will tell you much, if you have any friends among that admirable, but unhappily small, nation; and should I be unable to return to Greenland, it it was enough. The sledges, the best which could be procured in the country, by no means overloaded,

#### NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY.

The National Portrait Gallery was re-opened to the public on Monday week, with the addition of a few pictures of considerable interest. Henry Grey, Earl of Suffolk, father of Lady Jane Grey, is one of a class rarely to be seen away

from the mansions of our principal nobility. It is the counterpart of a portrait at Hatfield, but with the special advantage of being free from the re-storations and over-paintings which disfigure so many of Lord Salisbury's earliest pictures. It came from the Manor House at Haseley, near Thame,

and appears to be in very sound condition.

Samuel Butler, author of 'Hudibras,' a small portrait, done in crayons upon oak panel, the rough granulation of which shows through the surface of granulation of which shows unrough the colours, is the work of E. Lutterell, whose signature, E. L., may still be traced in the right hand corner of the picture. Lutterell is more generally known as one of the early engravers in mezzo-tinto, but he also acquired fame for his richly-toned crayon drawings, wrought by a peculiar process,

crayon drawings, whose upon plates of copper.

Anne Chambers, Countess Temple, also in crayons, is a charming little oval picture of an elderly lady, in profile, with somewhat sharplydefined features, wearing a cap tied round with black lace, such as Reynolds and Gainsborough delighted to paint. It is signed "H. D. Hamilton feett, 1770," and formed part of Horace Walpole's collection at Strawberry Hill.

Cardinal Howard, a small and delicately-finished miniature, painted in oil upon copper, exhibits a weak and by no means prepossessing countenance. The artist's name is unknown. A similar picture, on a larger scale, but inferior in workmanship, is at Arundel Castle. He was created Cardinal of Norfolk in 1675, and died at Rome, 1694. Robert Devereux, third Earl of Essex, son of

the favourite of Queen Elizabeth, and chief leader of the Parliamentary forces, is a dull, tame picture, attributed to Dobson, and principally interesting as showing how greatly this Parliamentary Earl differed from his father in personal appearance. The two portraits are hung side by side on a temporary screen. The early troubles of the son in his premature marriage to the daughter of the Earl of Suffolk, afterwards so infamous by her attachment to the Earl of Somerset and the poisoning of Sir Thomas Overbury, should be borne in mind when looking at this picture. His countenance is fat and heavy, suggestive rather of indolence. Charles Sackville, sixth Earl of Dorset, a half-

Charles Sackville, sixth Earl of Dorset, a half-length figure, wearing the robes of the Garter and holding the Lord Chamberlain's wand, is a fine example of the power of Kneller at an early period. A duplicate whole-length picture, still preserved at Knole, bears the artist's signature, and the date 1694. The expression of the head is peculiarly noble, and worthy of the patron of Dryden and friend of the principal literary men of his time. His song, "To all you ladies now on land," which he composed at sea immediately before going into

action, is always associated with his name.

Major-General Lambert, an oval portrait, lifesize, is a clear and vigorous picture by Robert Walker, and similar to one engraved by Houbraken when in the possession of the Earl of Bradford. A still earlier and more effective engraving of it was executed in mezzotinto by Francis Place. The picture has been many times engraved. The face is deficient in that force of expression to be expected from one who terrified the city of London, established the Committee of Safety, sent the Speaker home in his carriage when about to enter the Parliament House, and of whom General Monk

entertained a considerable amount of jealousy.

A finely-painted portrait of Anne Hyde, Duchess of York, by Lely, wearing a pale blue dress, in-closed in an oval framework of stone, so characteristic of the works of Mrs. Beale and her son, may was held to be feminine beauty.

A miniature by Hoskins of Prince Rupert, and

small portraits of Bishop Jewel and Dr. Whiston, the translator of Josephus, are genuine but less

meritorious representations.

Dr. Dodd, the once popular preacher, and now chiefly remembered by his melancholy fate and his compilation, the 'Beauties of Shakspeare,' is well represented in a careful oil painting, life-size, to the knees, by J. Russell, a pupil of Cotes, who afterwards became a highly-fashionable artist in atterwards became a many-assimance averages in crayons. Russell was only in his twentieth year when this portrait of Dr. Dodd was completed. The Doctor himself was forty. The picture is dated 1769. Dodd was executed in 1777.

Caroline Princess of Wales, painted by Sir Thomas Lawrence, in 1801, during her residence at Blackheath, is a characteristic and effective picture, in which the royal lady is represented in the character of a modeller, resting on a sofa from her labour, after working upon a large clay bust, that appears in profile in the background. Her countenance is bold, with deep-blue eyes and highly-rouged cheeks, looking full at the spectator. It affords a striking contrast to Dawe's portrait of her daughter, Princess Charlotte of Wales, which hangs near it on the staircase. The Princess of Wales is described by her contemporaries as having shown considerable talent for modelling and drawing, and in the pursuit of mechanical inventions. Turnerelli gave her lessons. At one time, after her estrangement from the Prince, it is recorded that she would frequently after dinner make a wax model, resembling her husband, and set it before the fire, so as to have the amusement of seeing it melt gradually away. One of the diarists of her time mentions the Princess as being very becomingly arrayed in crimson velvet up to the throat. The bare arms are somewhat too ostentatiously displayed, and, as usual with Lawrence, very inac-curately drawn. The picture was formerly in the collection of Lord Berwick.

The latest addition to the collection is a low toned and almost pathetic representation of Lord Chancellor Thurlow—the last picture he ever sat for,—affording a melancholy contrast to the vigor-ous, and it might also be said awful, portrait of the Chancellor in his prime, contributed by the Marquis of Bath to the Kensington Portrait Exhibition a few months ago. This portrait, in which the large, black, bushy eyebrows are exchanged for white straggling hairs, and the full Chancellor's wig has dwindled into a miserable scratch, was painted by Phillips, in 1805. The following year Thurlow died. He rests both his hands on the head of his cane; the whole figure droops, as if under the influence of calm meditation, conveying even an impression of benevolence when compared with the earlier representations taken of him. Between this picture and the one by Reynolds at Longleat, other portraits were painted by Phillips and Lawrence, in which, blended with the signs of age, fierceness and determination remained the principal characteristics; but they still fell far short of the first portrait, which realized the frequently repeated

Was ever man so wise as Thurlow looked?

An excellent portrait of Sir Walter Scott, painted at Glasgow by Graham Gilbert, is a valuable accession to the group of literary men of the beginning of this century. It represents Sir Walter in his ordinary costume, wearing a white cravat and black coat, and contrasts strikingly with the rough handkerchief of Raeburn's, and the open neck and broad collar of Chantrey's portraits. Sir Walter frequently visited Mr. Gilbert at Glasgow; and, since the decease of her husband, Mrs. Gilbert has presented the picture to the nation.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

At the anniversary meeting of the Royal Society, the award of medals by the Council was carried into effect, by the presentation of a Royal Medal to Mr. J. B. Lawes and Dr. Gilbert, jointly, for their researches in agricultural chemistry. searches are well known to chemists and culti-vators, having been published in the *Philosophical* Transactions, and other scientific works, where they supply valuable data on some of the most important questions appertaining to agriculture :

fertilization of soils, improvement of crops, and fattening of cattle. A Royal Medal conferred on Sir William Edmond Logan, Director of the Geological Survey of Canada, marks the appreciation in which the able chief's scientific labours are held; the which labours to be rightly judged of should be studied in the Reports of the Survey, and the admirable geological map of Canada by which they are accompanied. The Copley Medal was awarded to Karl Ernst von Baer, an aged and eminent member of the Academy of Sciences at St. Petersburg, For. Memb. R.S., for his discoveries in embryology and comparative anatomy, and his contributions to the philosophy of zoology.

We are asked to say, that the Mr. Robertson, who has been offering articles to editors of maga zines, is not Mr. Thomas Robertson, secretary of the Standard Life Assurance Society.

Mr. Wigan does not retire from the management of the New Queen's Theatre at Christmas.

Scottish papers announce the death of Dr. Ogilvie, a hard-working scholar, who is best known to the world, probably, as editor of 'The Imperial Dictionary

Mr. Charles Reade will commence a new novel, 'Foul Play,' in the New Year's number of Once a Week, which will thenceforth reduce its price

to twopence.

Students of English are sometimes puzzled by finding that whereas Saxon, or Anglo-Saxon, as it is generally called, is a Low-German dialect, and the Saxons who brought it here must have been Low-Germans; yet in Saxony now High-German is spoken. Has the population of Saxony altered its dialect since 600—1000 A.D.? Turned out Low-German, and taken to High? The explanation lies in the fact, that what is commonly called Old Saxon was not spoken in the present kingdom of Saxony, but in Lower Saxony (Nieder Sachsen), which comprised, besides the present Prussian pro-vince of Sachsen, Hanover, Westphalia, &c. The poem 'Heliand,' the oldest specimen of Old Saxon, is supposed to have been written in Westphalia, so that "Old Saxon" and "Old Low-German" are equivalent. In the present kingdom of Saxony, which lies further south, High-German, or rather Middle-German, is spoken.

Things do turn up in odd places. Here are some inedited portions of the Romance of 'Tristan' (our Sir Tristrem), published in Helsingfors, by a Finland Society, from a British Museum Manuscript! Well, if Frenchmen and Englishmen do not care enough for Arthur and the Arthur Romances to print them, by all means let the Société des Sciences de Finlande do it for them. Perhaps Greenland will help soon. England and France are poor enough in intellectual activity that way, to accept thankfully the smallest donations. time, let us chronicle the fact that M. Estlander has copied and printed from the Additional MS. 23,929, some fragments of what he conceives to be the nucleus of the long prose romances of Tristan, with an essay in French on the romance and the relations of the prose versions to the verse ones.

The impression that Henry the Eighth made on his contemporaries, as reported by Mr. Froude. is curiously confirmed by a poem in Bishop Percy's Folio Manuscript. The writer warns his hearers that as all the great heroes of antiquity are dead-Hercules, Duke Joshua, David, Hannibal, Arthur, Mithridates, &c.—so "after them wee must: we close of his poem, reiterating his moral—

wherfore mark my saying, all you that here bee, that here wee beene sure to liue but a space,

he comes to his climax-

ffor if wisdome or manhood by any meanes cold haue saued a mans liffe to endure for euer, then King Henery the 8th, soe noble and soe bold, out of this wyde world he wold haue passed neuer. The fat adulterer was "Solomon in all his glory"

to our men of the middle time.

We do not remember seeing before the words seskyn and English as the names of coins. Seskar given in Halliwell as the name of a small Scotch coin. Seskyn and English occur in an arithmetical piece in Hill's MS. Commonplace Book:

—"In a peny is xxiiij mytis, & vj mytis is a seskyn; & iiij seskyns is jd. or grain († MS.), viij mytis ys an englisshe, that is, the iijde parte of jd., and iij ynglisshe is xxiiij mytis, which is jd."

The arrangements for the London students' The arrangements for the London students' magazine, that we announced some time back, are, we hear, now complete, and The London Student will enrol itself among next year's periodicals. If the magazine will stick to its business, and not try to ape the manners of the monthlies in the hobble. dehoy fashion that university and school magazines generally do, The London Student may succeed.

Under the title of a 'Handy Royal Atlas of Modern Geography,' Mr. A. K. Johnston has issued, through the firm of Blackwood & Sons, a folio book of maps, clearly outlined, neatly printed, and artistically coloured. The work in based on the 'Royal Atlas'; but the amount of new labour expended on this Atlas is considerable. We have a new map of Italy—the same of Prussia—showing all the recent changes of position. We have also a good map of Abyssinia and Upper Nubia, which is of interest to every one just now.

Messrs. Trübner & Co. have sent us 'An Atlas to Fay's Outline of Geography for Schools and Families, with a Text-Book,' the leaves of which we have turned over with a good deal of interest. The plan of this work is excellent, and some of the outlines are uncommonly good. A reader of news-papers will probably get a better notion of the new Germany by reference to the two outlines here given—"Germany before the war of 1866," and "Germany after the war"—than he would gain by an hour's poring over an ordinary map.

Mr. Henry Perigal (57, Warren Street, Fitzroy Square) is known as the most practised of our contemporaries in the actual construction of curves by double and triple circular motion, of which he has published a multitude of specimens. He issues the following, dated November 4th: "As a challenge to mathematicians, I hereby offer a prize of five pounds to the first person (whether mathematician or non-mathematician) who before the end of this year shall discover and demonstrate analytically, geometrically, or mechanically, three plane curves having the following properties, viz.: 1st. A finite curve which cuts a circle in five equidistant points; and in those points only. 2nd. A finite curve that cuts a circle in seven equidistant points; and in those points only. 3rd. Another curve which cuts the same circle in five equidistant points: and also in seven equidistant points: and in no more than such twelve points. 4th. Each curve must be a continuous line in one plane, crossing the circle at the prescribed points, but not intersecting itself nor cusped at all those points: otherwise the first and second curves might be common bicircloids, though no bicircloid would fulfil the conditions of the third curve. Provided that the demonstration be original and new; that is, not copied or derived from any publication. H. Perigal." Our nonmathematical readers will please to stand informed that this has nothing to do with cyclometry. We do not intend that any one shall compete with our circle-squarer in ordinary and his 31/8.

The American papers are even more glowing than usual when chronicling the arrival of Mr. Dickens, and the excitement which the announcment of his readings has created there.

"Has it yet been noticed," inquires a Correspondent, "that among the truly extraordinary mass of papers from which M. Chasles produces extracts from time to time before the French Academy of Sciences, he states that there are 'papers of Shakapeare'? 'Saint-Evremond,' says the Academician, describing his treasures (Comptes Rendus for the 30th of September, page 549), sends papers of Shakspeare to Molière des papiers de Shakspeare à Molière), 'who had requested him to ascertain if there was nothing remaining of that great genius, which gave rise to a series of letters on that poet, "the poet of the honey-tongue," says Saint-Evremond, "known to every one, but whose private life is yet unknown. If geometricians, adds M. Chasles, regret to find stains in the life of Newton, the admirers of

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wn to own o find ers of Shakspeare will, on the other hand, rejoice in the revelations of Saint-Evremond.' It will be additionally curious if the papers of Shakspeare are in French, like all the other papers by Englishmen or The introduction of salmon into M. Charles and M. Charles an French, like all the other papers by Englishmen or Italians that M. Chasles has yet produced for the edification of the public. It was in French that Oliver Cromwell carried on the correspondence with Cardinal Richelieu and Queen Christina, of which M. Chasles is also the fortunate possessor which M. Unastes is also the fortunate possessor (see Comptes Rendus, page 547). It was, by the by, from a statement by M. Chasles (at page 685 of the Comptes) that the conclusion was drawn, it now appears erroneously, that Sir David Brewster had communicated to the Academy of Sciences his opinion that the Pascal and Newton correspondence had been forged since 1841. What he had in reality communicated to the Athenœum was the opinion communicated to the American was the opinion that it had been forged subsequently to the publication of the General Dictionary—which was about 1741—or, if the forger never saw that work, then after the Macclesfield Correspondence—which was after the Macciesied Correspondence—which was published in 1841. Sir David now maintains that the forgery is more than a century old. The rest of the world seems to be tolerably unanimous in believing that the forgery is now in course of manufacture from week to week, for the edification of an Academy which seems to have a mind like a or an Academy which seems to have a mind like a sheet of blank paper on Galileo's blindness and other points of scientific history, until enlightened by communications from Glasgow, or from M. Chasles's invaluable repository of papers."

There is some hope revived about Dr. Livingstone. A slave brought news to Zanzibar that in the interior he had seen a white man, accompanied the interior he had seen a white man, accompanied by men of colour, with double-barrelled guns. Among a hundred photographs he selected that of Livingstone as resembling the man he had seen. The "stop-joy" in this story is, that the white man sent no token by the slave. Still, sceptics before are believers now; and Sir S. Baker, weary of doing nothing, is willing to accompany any expedition the Egyptian Government will send from their side of Lake Tanganyika, to go and meet the wanderer. meet the wanderer.

Another illustration of literary morality reaches us from Carlsruhe:—"In 1866 was published, at Zurich, a little work, 'Drei Monate in Abyssinien und in Gefangenschaft unter König Theodorus II., um in teriangementar uniter Roling including 11., you F. H. Apel ('Three Months in Abyssinia and in Captivity under King Theodorus II.,' by F. H. Apel), and in 1867 there appeared in the November Part of London Society an article, headed 'How Ifell into the Clutches of King Theodore,' and signed Henry A. Burette, LL.D., purporting to be the narrative of its author's personal adventures in Abyssinia, and conversations with her present in Abyssinia, and conversations with her present ruler. This marrative, with the exception of its introduction, is, barring a few additions, a good deal of omission, and occasional amplifications of the wording of the little book of Apel's (who, notwithstanding his German name and the idiom-sic German of his book, appears to be, from a remark in his Preface, dated Zurich, March, 1866, and from a short passage in the work itself, a British subject), nothing but a translation or skilful 'adaptation' of that 'Drei Monate in Abyssinien' -a translation often so literal, especially in the many characteristic anecdotes and speeches, that, to a person equally conversant with both languages, it reads like the original German. From a notice in London Society it is to be concluded that this 'Dr. Bruttle, or fetch of Herr Apel, is to accompany, as 'Own Correspondent' of that periodical, the British Expedition to Abyssinia. It is to be hoped that the editor or publisher of London Society, if not 'Dr. Burette' himself, will clear up this

In a book called 'Notes on the Folk-Lore of the

been attended with such remarkable success, that steps are about being taken to introduce this fish into New Zealand. The Board of Conservators of the River Severn have granted Mr. Yaul permission to take salmon from that river, for the purpose of transporting the impregnated spawn to New Zealand.

The Government of Rome has recently published the vital statistics of the city for this year, from which the following figures are extracted: Rome and the suburbs are divided into 59 parishes, containing a population of 215,573 persons, being an increase since 1866 of 4,872. There are 30 resident cardinals, 35 bishops, 1,469 priests and 828 seminarists. The occupants of religious houses are 5,447,2 \$32.6 for the company of the containing the containing the company of the containing the containi 5,047, 2,832 of whom are monks and 2,215 nuns. These appertain to 61 different congregations or orders. There are 49 seminaries or colleges, among which are the French seminaries or colleges, among which are the French seminary, tenanted by 48 pupils; that of South America by 50; that of North America by 38; the German by 58; the English, 21; the Scotch, 12; and the Irish, 52. The number of families is 42,313; 7,360 persons following the military profession; and there are 4,650

THE SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS.—
The EXHIBITION of SKETCHES and STUDIES by the
Members is NOW OPEN. 5, Pall Mall East. Ten till Fire.—Admission, 1s. Gas on dark days.
WILLIAM CALLOW, Secretary.

INSTITUTE of PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS.—The WINTER EXHIBITION of DRAWINGS and SKETCHES by the Members WILL OPEN on MONDAY, December 2.—Gallery, 33, Pall Mall. JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL WINTER EXHIBITION of CABI-NET PICTURES by British and Foreign Artists, now OPEN at the French Gallery, 120, Pall Mall. Includes Mrs. Benham Hay's Great Picture, 'The Florentine Procession.'—Admission, 1z.

DUDLEY GALLERY, Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.—The FIRST WITTER EXHIBITION of CABINET PICTURES in OIL, is OPEN Daily from Ten till Six. On dark days and at dusk, the Gallery is lit with gas.—Admittance, i.g. (tatalogue, 6d. GEORGE L. HALL, Hon. Sec.

The THIRD ANNUAL EXHIBITION of WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS is NOW OPEN at T. M'LEAN'S New Gallery, 7, Haymarket, next door to the Theatre.

MR. MORBYS COLLECTION of MODERN HIGH-CLASS PICTURES is ON VIEW at the Royal Exchange Fine Arts catter of the College of the Co

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—Abyssinia and the Abyssinian Expedition.—Thomas Baines, Eq., F.R.O.S., will deliver a Lecture The Lecture will be illustrated with Optical Diorantic Pictures, carefully taken by Mr. Baines, from drawings belonging to the Royal Geographical Society and from authentic private sources.—The Paris Exhibition Lecture, introducing Machine-made Jewelry, by Edwin W. Streeter, Conduit Street.

#### SCIENCE

#### SOCIETIES.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Nov. 28.—O. Morgan, Esq., M.P., V.P., in the chair.—Mr. R. W. Binns exhibited a gold episcopal ring, with an uncut sapphire, supposed to have been found in the tomb of Walter de Cantilupe, Bishop of Worcester 1236–1266.—The Rev. C. W. Bingham exhibited a Roman fibula set with stones, a bronze handle to a clasp knife, and two gold rings of the fourteenth century, found at Dorchester.—Mr. G. Scharf communicated some notes on an early copy (therewith exhibited) of the *Lais Corinthiaca*, a picture at Basle, attributed to Holbein.—Dr. J. Thurnam m a book called 'Notes on the Folk-Lore of the Northern Counties of England and the Borders, by William Henderson, it is stated, that in the most parts of Yorkshire it is the custom to pour a kettleful of boiling water over the doorstep just after the bride has left her house; and they say that before it dries up another marriage is sure to be agreed upon.

According to observations made by Dr. Blane, one of King Theodore's prisoners, the average temperature at mid-day during the months of January,

work of Roman Agrimensores, and that the characters were the notæ technically used by them; and in this instance were intended to signify the size of the centuriæ, or private estates, allotted to Roman colonists in that part of Britain.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.—Nov. 20.— J. Hogg, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—Mr. Vaux read a paper 'On the Knowledge the Ancients J. Hogg, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—Mr. Vaux rad a paper 'On the Knowledge the Ancients possessed of that part of Æthiopia now called Abyssinia,—in which he traced the gradual progress of the Ptolemaic Greeks along the western coast of the Red Sea, and gave an account of the several ports established by them in that part of the world, partly for the better carrying on the trade with India, and partly for the easier obtaining a supply of elephants for purposes of war. Mr. Vaux also noticed what was on record of the existence of considerable monuments and ruins at Axum, and probably at Zulla, the site of the ancient Adulis; and expressed a hope that a competent archæologist would be sent out by Government to make a thorough investigation of the ment to make a thorough investigation of the ancient monuments still existing in Abyssinia.

ZOOLOGICAL.—Nov. 28.—J. Gould, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—Mr. P. L. Sclater read notes upon some recent additions to the Society's Menagerie, some recent additions to the society's menagerit, and invited particular attention to a specimen of a rare Australian parrot (Geopsittacus occidentalis, Gould), forwarded to the Society by Dr. F. Mueller, of Melbourne.—An extract was read from a letter of Melbourne.—An extract was read from a letter addressed to the Secretary by Capt. J. M. Dow, announcing that he had procured for the Society a young living specimen of the newly-discovered Tapir of Panama (Tapirus Bairdi), and would shortly forward it to Europe.—Prof. Owen communicated two memoirs on the extinct birds of the genus Dinornis of New Zealand, forming the eleventh and twelfth of his series of papers on this subject. These communications contained a desubject. These communications contained a description of the integuments of the sole and tendons scription of the integuments of the sole and tendons of a toe of the foot of Dinornis robustus, and a description of the femur, tibia and metatarsus of Dinornis maximus.—Mr. G. D. Rowley read a paper upon the Eggs of the extinct genus Æpyornis of Madagascar.—Dr. W. Baird communicated a monograph of the species of worms belonging to the sub-class Gephyrea; with a notice of such species as are contained in the collection of the Estitch Museum —A communication was read British Museum.-A communication was read from Mr. S. F. Day on some new or imperfectly known Fishes of the Madras Presidency.—A com-munication was read from Mr. G. Krefft, containing descriptions of some new Australian freshing descriptions of some new Australian freshwater fishes.—A communication was read from Mr. J. Y. Johnson, containing a description of a new genus, and a new species of Macrourous Decapod Crustaceans, belonging to the family Peneide, discovered at Madeira. These were proposed to be called Funchalia Woodwardi and Panawa Edwards in the Communication was a communication of the control of the con Penœus Edwardsianus.—A communication was read from Capt. T. Hutton on the geographical range of Semnopithecus entellus in India.—Dr. J. S. Bowerbank read a paper on *Hyalonema Lusitanicum*, Bocage. Dr. Bowerbank came to the conclusion from microscopical examination that this species, from microscopical examination that this species, which had lately been elevated to the rank of a genus by Dr. Gray, and proposed to be called Hyalothrix, was not even specifically distinct from H. mirabile of Japan.—Mr. G. F. Angas communicated the second part of a list of species of marine mollusca found in Port Jackson Harbour and on the adjacent coast of New South Wales, completing a former paper on this subject; and descriptions of a new genus and some new species of marine mollusca from Port Jackson, New South Wales.—A communication was read from Messrs. Wales.—A communication was read from Messrs.
H. Adams and G. F. Angas, containing the description of a new species of land-shell belonging to the genus Cœliaxis.

Entomological.—Dec. 2.—Sir John Lubbock, Bart., President, in the chair.—Messrs. W. C. Boyd, H. Druce, A. H. Haliday and J. Ince were elected members.—Mr. Pascoe exhibited a Sumatran species of Thysia, which he proposed to describe as T. viduata, and pointed out that the Javanese T. tricincta of Laporte was distinct from

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the Indian T. Wallichii of Hope. He also exhibited other interesting Coleoptera, including new forms of Trogositidæ, Tenebrionidæ, Curculionidæ, Anthribidæ, Lamiidæ and Brenthidæ.-Prof. Westwood exhibited a specimen of Serropalpus striatus, captured some twenty years ago at Leicester by Mr. Plant; also a small spherical nest, made of mud, with a silken lining on the inside, found on the common ling, near Reigate, in July, 1866; it was thought at the time to be the nest of a spider, but had produced the Hymenopterous Eumeness atricornis.—Mr. F. Smith exhibited a piece of willow, from Mitcham, in which were no less than ten cocoons of Megachile Willughbiella within a radius of an inch.—The following papers were read:

Contributions to a knowledge of the Coleoptera, Part 1,' by Mr. Pascoe, -and 'On some undescribed species of South-African Butterflies, including a new genus of Lycenide,' by Mr. Roland Trimen.

ROYAL INSTITUTION .- Dec. 2 .- Sir H. Holland, Bart., President, in the chair.—G. W. Hemans, Esq., W. D. Michell, Esq. and M. B. Williams, Esq. were elected members.

SOCIETY OF ARTS .- Nov. 27 .- Sir D. Cooper, Bart., Member of Council, in the chair. - The paper read was 'On the Diplomatic and other Conferences held recently in Paris with reference to International Coinage, Weights, and Measures, by Dr. Leone Levi.

SYRO-EGYPTIAN.—Nov. 5.—W. H. Black, Esq., in the chair.—Mr. Kraus, of Jerusalem, exhibited two MSS. of the Samaritan Pentateuch, written on vellum, in book form. One of these is reported to be extremely old. At the end of Genesis there is a note written by Ithamar, said to be the great-grandson of Aaron, to the effect that the MS. was written by the command of a prince of the tribe of Ephraim, appointing that it should be read in the house of the high priest on the seventh month in every Sabbatical year, to which Ithamar adds his approval. At the end of Numbers there is a note which says that this MS. was, by the command of Cyrus, cast into the fire, but that the fire could not touch it; thus identifying it with the one mentioned in the Samaritan Book of Joshua. Apart, however, from these traditions, the MS. has evident marks of high antiquity. The other MS. is written with great care and beauty. Its history is ingeniously given in an acrostic, formed in the text of Exodus, and reads thus:—"I Jacob, son of Israel, son of Joseph the priest, who is of the children of Marderor, the priests, in the city of Damascus, have written this Holy Law for the good and dear priest Ishmael, son of Saba, and for the good and dear priest Abiasi, in the year seven hundred and thirty-eight of the empire of the chil-dren of Ishmael. Thanks be to God." By the children of Ishmael he means the Mohammedans; the date, therefore, would answer to 1337 A.D.-A lengthy conversation took place on the merits of both MSS., which are now on sale.

Institute of Actuaries .- Nov. 25 .- S. Brown, Esq., President, in the chair.-Mr. A. Baden was elected a Fellow.—The President read a report of the Sixth International Statistical Congress Florence; and a paper by Mr. J. Henry, entitled, Memoir on the Instrument for Furnishing the D Numbers to Four Figures each, in Two Joint Life Annuity Tables, on any Basis,' was read.

MATHEMATICAL.—Nov. 28.—W. Spottiswoode, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—The candidates proposed election were Sir J. G. Shaw Lefevre and W. S. B. Woolhouse.—Messrs. J. M'Dowell, M.A., C. E. F. Nash, M.A., and Sir W. Thomson were elected Members.-The following communications were made: 'On the Representation of Points in Space by Triplets of Points on a Line,' by Prof. Hirst,—'A Property of Six Points on a Plane, or Sphere, of which Pascal's Theorem is a Particular Case, by Mr. T. Cotterill, M.A.,—'On the Dis-crimination of the Roots of the Biquadratic by inspecting the Signs of the Co-efficients and Discriminant of Euler's Reducing Cubic,' and 'A Note

on Partial Invariants,' by Mr. J. J. Walker, M.A., -and 'A Short Account of a System of Coordinates of Lines in Space, peculiarly adapted to the Subject of Statics,' by the Chairman.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Royal Academy, 8.—'Sculpture, 'Mr. Westmacott.

Geographical \$1,...' Journey through Central China from
Canton,' Mr. Bickmore.

Engineers, 8.—'Victoria Bridge, Victoria Station, Pimlico,'
Mr. Wilson,' New Railways at Battersea, &c., 'Mr. Fox.

Mr. Hong,' New Railways at Battersea, &c., 'Mr. Fox.

Wilson,' New Railways at Battersea, &c., 'Mr. Box,' the Artificial Control of the Control of Straight Theory of Probability applied to Drawing of Straight Theory of Probability applied to Drawing of Straight Theory of Probability applied to Drawing of Straight, Mr. Spottiswoode.

Royal, 8.

Zoological, 8.—'Anatomy of Hoomoschus aquaticus,' Mr. Flower: 'Osteology of Lemuridae,' Mr. Mivara.

Antiquaries, 8.—'Aneient British Barrows,' Dr. Thurnam.

Astronomical, 8.—'Ancient British Barrows,' Dr. Thurnam.

#### FINE ARTS

WINTER EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES AND STUDIES.

THE Institute of Painters in Water Colours continues the recently-adopted practice of making a winter gathering of drawings of minor impor-tance. The present display is hardly equal to that of last year; although less decidedly inferior to it than the current gathering of the elder Society of Painters in Water Colours is to that which preceded. We will take the Sketches—we notice very few Studies-indeed, the calibre of the majority of members of the Institute does not admit of the making of studies proper-in numerical order, and group each artist's works. Mr. J. Fahey is one of the most fortunate of members. He paints in a broad and vigorous way, which, although a little deficient in solidity, and consequently defective in rendering atmosphere, is artistic and manly: notice his Haymaking (No. 7), and several drawings of a similar character. - Mr. G. Bach draws in a pretending style, which, among so much that is timid, is gratifying to the eye, on account of its pictorial qualities. Thus, despite its sentimentality, his Joy and Sorrow (10)-a young mother with her bab and friends, all treated in the Italian manner of the studios-will not be passed over by experts. A Gitana, a Study, (142) seems to us to be the outcome of academic training in a highly conventionalized school, and to derive nothing from mental and original study, although it owes much to traditions of Italian studios. These pictures may be styled "studio works," and differ from such productions as No. 114, Eve of St. Agnes— the Elopement, by Mr. E. H. Wehnert, which represents a vast class here, in being more manly, and the result of superior training. Mr. Wehnert is one of the most fortunate of his order. It is curiously amusing to the observer and discriminator of styles in figure-picture-making to mark the shades of difference between such as exercise his cleverness, and, respectively, that of Messrs. J. J. Absolon, A. Bouvier, E. H. Corbould, H. Tidey, H. Warren, C. Weigall, and J. M. Jopling. These gentlemen form a class, with varied shades of the reverse of true art and merit, such as the Institute alone includes. There are landscape-painters of a like order in this and in other societies, but they are less obnoxious to remark because their productions are less effective, less merely popular. Not one of the minds which are thus employed but possesses that sort of ability which is aptly designated as "cleverness," than which nothing more readily attracts the untaught or offends the taught.

Mr. H. G. Hine does not now appear with such pleasant force as before. His best of many drawings is No. 20, Stream near Aydon Castle-a rich study of a hollow, water-worn, rocky way obscured by trees: see Moonlight (57), and On the Adur (38), by the same.—Mr. D'Egville's Near Dazio, Val Levantina, (32)—a water-pass—is full of expression, and has good colour.—Mr. W. W. Deane's Street Shrine in Genoa (30) is a very sunny sketch. The Palazzo Doria, Genoa, (53) is a capital sketch, showing much good colour and strength. These may be taken to represent a large series of like sketches by this excellent painter.-Mr. Telbin

rivals and surpasses David Roberts in his orienta subjects, and does so by means of greater loyali to Nature, and so much of pathos as suffices to impart feeling to all his studies, and not, as the senion did, make them all alike. Three drawings, in frame No. 55, prove this with completeness.—The Beat of the Atlantic (62)—a study of breaking waves on a rocky shore—is so effective and expressive as to be almost dramatic; by Mr. J. G. Philp.—Mr. W. Bennett's Bodiham Castle (83) is broad, but rather flat and dull in colour. Mr. A Penley's Scene on the Avon, from Pill, (98) with great dexterity illustrates the shallowness of its "drawing-master's" mannerisms. — The Eagle Tower, Haddon Hall, (121) by Mr. L. J. Wood, reproduces, by means of curious mechanical craft the texture of the old stones, and is very effective because of the truth of its light and shade, -Mr. S. Prout's Hermitage, St. Helier's, Jersey, (126) in what artists often rightly admire and call a very effective "blot." It is full of character.—The First Blush of Morn, Tenby, (129) by Mr. J. Mogforda coast-scene-is delicately and brilliantly painted with a good sky, but a little artificial and s mannered: see also his La Rocco Tower, St. Oven's Bay, Jersey, (320)—a good "sunset" on the sea.

Mr. J. D. Linton is one of the few thoroughly accomplished and conscientious watercolour painters we have. His manner of execution is hard; his flesh-tints look like those of ivory. painting; yet he draws completely, models perfectly, has a good sense of colour, and in dealing with single heads—his wont—is never stagey, never vulgar. His Study of a Head (154) is a careful and vigorous picture of a luxurious-looking damsel, and superior in most qualities to either of is companions here from the same hand.—No. 181, Evening, by Mr. W. L. Leitch, is, with all its artifice, a capital composition in the old-fashioned way.—Mr. M'Kewan's Devonshire River (190) is the Lynn-a fine, broadly-treated sketch.-Mr. Vacher's View near Suez (191)—the sea in a rosy mist, with distant mountains—is a fine representation, which, however, smells of the lamp, and is singularly effective.—Mr. Hixon's Arab Encamp ment (238) is a capital sketch of palms and tents treated with skill in composition.—Flowing Tide, Lynmouth, North Devon, (284) is the best of Mr. Mogford's literal drawings, which, on account of its simplicity, we separate from the before-mentioned and rather imaginative painting of Tenby. The former is a capital and very brilliant representation of the sea-beach, the sea, and a sun and salt-bleached groyne. - For a like reason, Mr. M'Kewan's Lady Betty Germain's Bed-cham ber, Knole, (296) may be separated from its before named fellow by the same painter. Though very slight, it is very true, and very broad. The quain subject never fails to remind one of Walpole's friend.

Mr. Shalders's Shadow, a Study, (344)-cattle lying in a close field and beneath trees which protect them from the sun-is a real study so far as it goes, and noteworthy for breadth and brilliancy, with much rich colouring. This drawing recalls the manner of Mr. E. Warren, but has greater breadth, richness of colour and softness. Although at least as powerful, it is more artistic than the productions of Mr. E. Warren, who, by the way, does not contribute to this Exhibition.—Mr. G. G. Kilburne's Low Tide (372) should be, on account of its excellence, classed with the last-mentioned picture, and described as one of the few real studies here. It is an admirable representation of daylight, not at all too hard for Nature, on chalk cliffs, a sea-beach and boulders, some of which are over-grown with long green hair-weed in the strangest way. Mr. Kilburns can draw, and loves Nature honestly for herself.— Mr. W. Luson Thomas's Spring Time (404) is a little thin in execution, but otherwise very good .-Mr. J. Sherrin's Bough of Apples (422) is the truest of his likenesses to what W. Hunt produced in the same way; the fruit are, nevertheles, rather waxy in appearance.—Mr. C. Green's Study for a Drawing (428)—an acrobat girl—is very cleverly sketched.

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FINE-ART GOSSIP.

Messrs. Longmans have published 'Original Designs for Wood-Carving, with Practical Illustrations of the Art,' by A. F. H.,—a handsome rolume of well-selected designs and sketches from Nature, as applied to the purpose in question. Some of the conventionalized decorations should be studied, as those on plate six, a very simple be studied, as chose on place six, a very simple series, are highly commendable; much more so than those on plate seven, which are ugly. A bracket of pine-cones, &c., being plate eight, is good, listic or author imitation. The author's naturalistic, or rather imitative, ornaments, as the desk-side on plate fourteen, are erroneous in principle. We heartily agree with the author, and go gipe.

The beyond his meaning when he recommends large casts and photographs from architectural objects for studies. Of the latter none surpass the series of transcripts published by the Architectural Photemperature of the transfer of mind and true value, in one of these misereres than in all Grinling Gibbons ever carved in the opposed imitative manner, to say nothing of the humour of some of the designs. These wood sculptures of the middle ages are true in art; muli this is popularly understood and accepted in practice, we are behindband in knowledge of design. Professor Church forwards us the following memoranda on the restoration of wall-paintings:

"In the Athenœum of November 23rd, you gave an account of the use of paraffine in solution for the purpose of restoring and preserving the Westminster frescoes. My attention was directed to the minister rescues. Any aventual was interested to manually required and the solution five years ago, and I have long applied it both in laboratory trials and upon specimens of ancient decoration. The Roman wall decorations of ancient Corinium (partly in true fresco and partly in distemper), which are continually being found in this town of Circnester, recover all their original qualities when naturated with a solution of paraffine in mineral turpentine. In my trials I have usually added a mmall quantity of pure picture copal varnish, which, without imparting any objectionable gloss to the painted surface, makes it harder, and prevents the crystallization of the paraffine. Specimens of Roman fresco thus treated two years ago are as fresh and hard as when first operated on. When, in the removal of the accumulated whitewash from the north wall of the Chapel of St. Catherine, in the parish church of Cirencester, a beautiful mediæval painting in distemper was revealed last year, I lost no time in saturating the surface with a solution containing paraffine. This liquid enriched the old colours, and protected the work from damp and mechanical injury; for the paint, which a touch of the finger would at first remove, is now perfectly This painting of St. Christopher may be and the seem now that our church has been re-opened after an expenditure of some 12,000L upon its restoration. I have found that paintings in stereotherome may be repaired by the use of a medium in which paraffine is a principal constituent. When an opaque siliceous bloom appears upon the works, it may be rendered invisible by the application of a paraffine solution, while colours which are scaling of may be thus security fixed. which are scaling off may be thus securely fixed. In this case, also, I prefer to add a little copal varish to the paraffine solution, while the solvent may be either mineral turpentine, benzole, or tur-patine, or even mixtures of these liquids. Where the work is small, and the odours of these liquids are objectionable, oil of spike-lavender may be sub-tituted. In all cases I avoid the use of a brush in applying the preserving solution. La bouffée, worked by a hand-bellows, or Dr. Richardson's pray-producer, is far better."

#### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

ST. GEORGE'S OPERA HOUSE, Langham Place, Oxford Cross.—The First Season of COMIC OPERA, under the direction of MR CGEMAN REEL, will commence on SATURDAY EVEN. 136, December 1978. In PROPERTY OF SATURDAY EVEN. 136, December 1978. In PETTIC OUTS'; after which, an original come opera in Two Acts by F. C. Burnand, the music by Arthur Saturday of the Communication of t

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter Hall.—Conductor, Mr. Costa.—SUESCRIPTION CONCERT.—The Five Hundredth Concert of the Society in the large Hall will take place up FRIDAY NEXT. December 13, when Mr. Costa's Dratorio, 'NAAMAN', will be performed. Principal Vocalists: Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Madame Rudersdorff, Madame Sainton-Dolby, Mr. Commings, Mr. Montem Smith and Mr. Sautley, Dolby, Mr. Commings, Mr. Montem Smith and Mr. Sautley, Stalls, 10s. 6d.; Reserved Arca, 5s.

By unanimous vote of the General Meeting of the Society held on Wednesday, the receipts arising from this Concert will be appropriated to the BENEVOLENT FUND of the Sacred The unand Christmas Performances of the 'MESSIAH' will take place on FRIDAYS, December 20 and 27. Tickets now ready.

Mr. BRINLEY RICHARDS'S PIANOFORTE RECITALS, Hanover Square Rooms, TUESDAY EVENING NEXT.—Programme: Sonata Pathétique, Beethover: Grand Polonais, Weber; Lieder ohne Worte, Mendelssohn: Romance, Genéviève, Sterndale Bennett: Etudes, 'Chant d'Amour'; 'Si oiseau j'étais, 'Henselt; 'Day Dreams,' first time, Nos. 2 and 8, Arthur Sullivan; 'Capriccio,' written for the Princess Amelia: 'The Harmonious (Capriccio, Written for the Princess Amelia: 'The Harmonious (Expriccio, Arthur Sullivan; 'Capriccio, 'Andante con Moto'; Nymphs of the Fountain, 'Capricc & la Valse'; 'The Vision, Romance (first time); 'Premiere Tarantelle'; 'Octave Studies, Nos. 2 and 3; 'The Angel's Song, 'Romance; 'Vire la Reine, 'Galop de Concert; 'Warblings at Eve' (by request); Second Fantasis on Weish Airs, 'Of Noble Race, 'The Ash Grove'; 'Be Cocks and all Musicsellers'.

Hert ERNST PAUER'S THIRD and LAST HISTORICAL PIANOFORTE PERFORMANCE on WEDNESDAY next, December II, at the Hanover Square Rooms. Programme: The Clavedin-La Favorte, 'La Tandro Amette, 'Couperin; Deux Gigues en Kondeaux,' 'Deux Menuets,' La Foulc, Rameau; Part IL—The Finnoforte—'Andante and Variations,' Haydu; 'La Consolation,' Dussek; 'Capriccio, in G Flat, 'Müller; 'Andante and Rondo, 'Weber: 'Studies,' Moscheles; 'Impromptu, Op. 143, No. 3, 'Schubert; 'Allesto Brillante for two Pianofortes,' Mendelssohn—Snigel Trickets, 7s.; Urnbestra Stalls, 2s. 6d. each; at all the principal Musicsellers,' of Herr Pauer, 3sc, Onalow Biographies, Critical Remarks, Epitome of Chronological Table, 6d. each.

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ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Mr. JOSEPH BARNBY'S CHOIR.—
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#### MENDELSSOHN'S REFORMATION SYMPHONY.

YIELDING to none in our love for the fame and memory of the last of the great German composers, it may be recollected that we have not shared with many of Mendelssohn's friends and enthusiastic admirers their eagerness to bring to light the music which he withheld during his lifetime as incomplete. The case is not a common one. His orderliness and self-knowledge were as remarkable as his genius. His reserves, therefore, are not to be classed with the accidents and oversights which apply in other cases of posthumous manuscripts. Whereas Gluck, with all his boastfulness, exercised no care over his scores,—leaving interpolations unnoticed, faults uncorrected, and variations for his successors to decide on,—it was not so with Mendelssohn. The plea that an author's inventions must become public property, when once the breath has passed out of his body, however specious, is subject to limitations. There is something of authority after all in the Stratford-upon-Avon epitaph. Manywise and generous persons, however, have held diametrically opposite views in this par-ticular case; and so it has come to pass that, in compliance with the pressure of their zeal, certain

remains and relics are now appearing one by one.

The Reformation Symphony is probably the most important of the works left by the master which will see the light, since we cannot conceive that those who advocate the production of every scrap of writing which came from Mendelssohn's pen would writing which came from Mendelssohn's pen would dream of demanding the double pianoforte concertos which are in existence, or other of the items carefully noted by him in the Thematic Catalogue prepared by his own hand. That the production of the work at Sydenham occasioned an amount of musical excitement rare in England was to be foreseen. It is not exaggeration to say that it was hailed as a new treasure almost before it was heard, and received with an enthusiasm which makes remark or qualification next to impossible. makes remark or qualification next to impossible. It is already thought to be set in its place among its composer's greatest works. Our conviction, however, that much remains to be said on the subject, is so sincere that, no matter at what

risk of unpopularity, it must be respectfully expressed. Let it be stated, further, that under better conditions an unfamiliar work was never given. Every nerve had been strained to do justice to the memory of the modern musician most-and most

memory of the modern musician most—and most justly—beloved in this country.

Mendelssohn's music is in nothing more admirable than in the characteristic that whereas it is never shallow, it does not terment the listener by mysticisms. He wrote by the golden rule, that to be great one must be clear—the rule of Michael Angelo and Handel, of Beethoven in his best period, and Mozart, every step in departure from which Angelo and Handel, of Beethoven in his best period, and Mozart, every step in departure from which is (disguise it how the pedants of mysticism will) a step downwards. In the works of what he laughingly used to call "his rebellious time" (as in his stringed quartett preluded by the *Lied* 'Ist es wahr'), he was at times over-anxious to show his scholarship, not by "the sweet adulteries of art," but by ingenuities of knowledge and construction amazing in one so young, and which, it may be said, occasionally shut up that freedom of melody and idea which are indispensable to complete pleasure in music. That this was developed by many a stride with every year that passed 'Elijah' many a stride with every year that passed 'Elijah shows, as compared with 'St. Paul.'

As the Reformation Symphony stands, we fancy it may have been composed and retouched at different periods. It does not present itself to us as an entire work. There is dryness in the first movement, and over-labour on a very limited phrase, howbeit disguised by the utmost felicity of instrumentation. The scherzo is charming, even among Mendelssohn's scherzi—the essential slightness, not to say frivolity, of the elegant theme of its trio being dressed with of the elegant theme of its trio being dressed with every orchestral device and grace conceivable: neither device nor grace forced a hair's breadth towards affectation or false effect. The slow movement is more mannered—a Lied ohne Worte scored. The Lutheran Corale is wonderfully announced and amplified. Among the stories to which this Symphony has given rise, is one that Mendelssohn held it back, conceiving himself anticipated—or his idea pirated—by Meyerbeer, in 'Les Huguenots.' The finale is grand and spirited; but Beethoven had first written the finale to the 'Les Huguenots.' The finale is grand and spirited; but Beethoven had first written the finale to the c minor Symphony. The peroration is noble, rich, pompous—equal to, and in some phrases anticipating, the one to the violin Concerto. But, as a whole, "come what come may," cause is to be heard in this Symphony why Mendelssohn declined to send it forth, and cause may be found in it, should its settled acceptance fail to fulfil the expectations of those who have been immediate to announce its triumphant reception immediate to announce its triumphant reception as among the masterpieces of symphonic art.

HAYMARKET.—The success of Dundreary in these times almost equals that of Falstaff in those of Shakspeare. Each character owed its vitality to an idea, the type of which was readily conceivable; and thus derived, proved to have a producable; and thus derived, proved to have a productive power, and easily multiplied itself, furnishing a leading character in a succession of plays. We have thus more than one Dundreary; but his lordship has been more prolific than even Falstaff. Falstaff, like Richard the Third, stood alone; he "had no brother, and was like no brother":—but Lord Dundreary was one of a family, probably rather a large family, and certainly rejoiced in a brother whom he named Sam, and sketched for us, while he read for our benefit the extraordinary letter of bis illustrious relative written in America. letter of his illustrious relative written in America. The sketch was so suggestive, that the theatrical mind determined the idea should not be lost, and in due time "Brother Sam" was portrayed at full length by Mr. John Oxenford, and impersonated by Mr. Sothern. Sam was a great success on his first production, and is as likely to retain the stage in permanent possession as his lordship himself, if we may judge from the hearty reception given to him on his re-appearance. Mr. Sothern is as much at home in Brother Sam as in Lord Dundreary; and the character fits him so well that the audience recognize at once the humour of their favourite actor, and identify him with the new part. He is also provided by the author with really witty dialogue, and the situations are decidedly amusing. He, too, is surrounded with other good letter of his illustrious relative written in America.

characters; among them, Mr. Buckstone as Jonathan Bumbelov, Mr. Compton as the henpecked husband, Mr. Trimbush, and Mrs. Chippendale as the imperious wife. Miss Robertson plays the amiable Alice very sweetly, and satisfactorily supplies the place of Miss Nelly Moore, by whom the part was originally personated.

PRINCESS'S.—The popularity of 'The Colleen Bawn' has induced Mr. Boucicault to bring it once again before the public, and to make it the feature of an elaborate performance evidently designed for a prolonged run. It is now accompanied with entirely new scenery, which does the greatest credit to Mr. F. Lloyd and Mr. A. Hann. The Lake of Killarney by moonlight, the cottage on Muckross Head, the landscape associated with the dwelling of the Colleen Bawn, and the Water-Cave, are done equal justice to by these well qualified scenic-artists. Eily O'Connor looks as charming as ever in the person of Mrs. Boucicault; while her husband displays all his wonted eleverness in the warm-hearted Irishman, Mylesnac-Coppaleen, whose disinterested love is capable of any sacrifice. Mr. Dominick Murray is great in Danny Mann, and Miss Elsworthy gives dignity to Mrs. Cregan, while Miss Emma Barnet is characteristically lively in the part of Ann Chute. Mrs. Addie, too, makes the most of Shelah. Mr. H. Mellon, as Falher Tom, is delightfully unctuous. Hardress Cregan, Kyrie Daly, and Corrigan are all skilfully interpreted by Mr. G. F. Neville, Mr. J. G. Shore, and Mr. Atkins. In many respects this pleasing drama is now more completely represented than on any former occasion.

#### MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.

THERE is a talk of a Musical Festival to be held next year at Leeds. Mr. Benedict's 'St. Cecilia' was performed there on Wednesday last.—The accounts of the last Birmingham Festival have been published; and from the report it appears that the meeting has been the most productive of those held in the Town Hall.

Herr Pauer's three Historical Concerts began on Wednesday week, and are full of interest, as showing how widely and deeply he has studied his subject. His playing is excellent, as vigorous as ever, but far more refined than formerly. An historical concert must always be more or less educational, and thus runs a risk of becoming dull to those who do not so much desire to learn as to be amused. Then, under circumstances, there is no avoiding a certain unwieldiness and length of programme. But all that tact and experience can do has been done; and the result can only be enhancement of the concert-giver's reputation as a professor and as a performer.

It is now said that the rumour of Herr Otto Goldschmidt's retirement from our Royal Academy of Music was a mistake.

All manner of new singers are named, as promising. We are told of one coming tenor, Mr. Hampton, the son of a lady well known in the musical world; of another so richly gifted that he has been bought, for seven years to cone, by the manager of Her Majesty's Theatre.—Miss Cecilia Westbrook has clearly "made her mark" at the Paraulus Concerts as a sensure who places

Popular Concerts as a soprano who pleases.

Miss Edith Wynne is going to Italy for the purpose of vocal study. She ought to return the first English soprano of our time—no success that we can recollect having been so decided, so rapid, and so well-morited as here.

so well-merited as hers.

M. Offenbach's 'Robinson Crusoe' does not appear to have gained a great success in Paris. The writers of the book have made a "May-game" of Defoe's immortal tale; and M. Offenbach, who has vulgarized a real musical talent, seems to have "followed suit." He appears unequal to substantial effort, as may be said, remembering his 'Roi Barkouf' and his 'Papillon'—that ballet full of ugly ballet music, in which poor Mdlle. Emma Livry danced so well. Even from the story as told in the Gazette Musicale, whose publishers are the proprietors of "Robinson," we cannot but gather the fact that the music is vulgar and frivolous, and, as such, we believe and hope, cannot stand. Madame

Galli-Marie is *Friday*, M. Montaubry the hero; Mdlle. Cico is his wife, *Edwige*. A funny part of *Jim Coks*, a sailor (what wonderful work do our neighbours make of our names!), has been fitted up for M. Saint-Foy. When the score is published, we may attempt some account of its contents. Meanwhile, it is a comfort to read that the English *per*-version of 'The Grand Duchess' has been so very successful, that it can be performed in London only a few nights more.

only a few nights more.

Mr. A. S. Sullivan's 'Marmion' overture is to be played to-day at Sydenham.

We were in error, when imagining that Mr. German Reed's operatic speculation implied his giving up the entertainments in the Regent Street Gallery. This is not the case, at least for the present.

We perceive, with disgust, that the African brutes in human form, calling themselves convulsionaires, conjurers—no matter what—have been absolutely retained by the manager of a suburban set of public rooms, in a respectable neighbourhood, there to exhibit their scenes of torture! Is not this a case for the Lord Chamberlain's interference?

The proprietors of the Holborn Amphitheatre have replaced their late unique equestrian company by an American importation, very different in character, but nevertheless composed of very effective elements. Its members are more robust than those of the former troupe, and depend rather upon their courage than their elegance in the selection and the performance of their feats. They name themselves American Champions, and seek to startle and terrify by their boldness and temerity. The tumbling act with which they commence shows the utmost proficiency in the acrobats engaged, and is sufficiently grotesque to provoke much merriment. But the next act, which exhibits feats of leaping, is still more surprising. Mr. Kelly astonished us by turning a somersault over the backs of ten horses; and Mr. Stickney, after leaping from the spring-boards, turns twice before touching the ground. Mr. James Robinson turns a pirouette on a bare-backed steed, and many somersaults, with marvellous ease, besides flying round the ring with his boy on his head. Mr. Franconi has a horse which performs as many tricks as an elephant, and appears to be equally sagacious. The extent to which the inferior crea tures can be instructed is perhaps the most interesting point in such exhibitions. Mdlle. Chiarini, also, rides an intelligent animal, which upsets chairs and adroitly replaces them, and is obedient to the slightest indication of her will. Other performers, such as the Brothers Conrad, show great muscular strength. We have also the Hanlon Brothers, who have recently appeared at the Oxford. The merits of Mr. D. Herman, who leaps through very small balloons, are great; and Mdlle. Virginia shows much daring in a difficult trick act. The clowns are four—Messrs. Keith, Abbott, Conrad and North. We have seen better.

#### MISCELLANEA

Abyssinia and its People.—I have read with much satisfaction your article in the Atheneum of the 30th ult., commenting on the above work, and specially in relation to 'The Oriental Album,' published by me in 1848. I feel it my duty to confirm the accuracy with which your reviewer has so admirably put forward the original object I had in publishing the same. Tendering you my best thanks, I remain, &c.,

JAMES MADDEN.

The Hamstringing of Elephants.—In a review of Sir S. W. Baker's work 'On the Nile Tributaries of Abyssinia,' in the Atheneum of the 2nd of November, the traveller is taken to task for having omitted to notice that Bruce had preceded him in giving an account of the sword-hunters of the Hamran Arabs, of whom he indeed makes a feature in his book. It is still more interesting, as attesting the handing down of customs from generation to generation, to know that the manner of hamstringings elephants, as practised by these people, was an art as perfectly understood by the ancient barbarians (see Strabo, lib. xvi., p. 772, and Diod. Sic., lib. iii., p. 161) as by Bruce's and Baker's "Agageers," or "elephant-hunters." A relish for the flesh of elephants and hippopotami,

so signally illustrated in Baker's work, appears to have been a characteristic of the dwellers in region so favoured by large game from time immemorial; for we are told by Agatharcides that Ptolemy would have redeemed the life of the elephant at any price, as he wanted elephants for his army; but he met with a refusal from the native hunters, who declared they would not forego the luxury of their repast for all the wealth of Egypt. It is recorded in the celebrated inscription of Adule, that Ptolemy invaded Asia with his land and sea forces, and with elephants from the country of the Troglodytes and Ethiopians. The latter may refer to the region in question, situated between the Settite and the Khor al Gash and which probably constituted one of the chief hunting-grounds of the Ptolemies. The port for the embarcation of elephants was, it is well known, Ptolemais Theron, built by Eumedes, and which Ptolemy the geographer tells us was in the latitude of Meroë, that is to say, in 16° 24' N. lat.; or, in his tables, 16° 25'. Dr. Beke has suggested, in a late number of the Athenœum, that Ptolemais Theron may have been in the vicinity of the embouchure of the Khor al Gash, in the Red Sea. If so, the line of commerce, or transport, noticed by Agatharcides as the only one remaining on the coast in the time of Philometer, may have been carried on by that river-bed, possibly better supplied with water in ancient times than it is in our own. But opposed to this is the latitude assigned by Ptolemy to the port in question, and as the parallel of Meroë was the first of Eratosthenes, and consequently of great importance to all the geographers and astronomers who succeeded; so if there is any one point more than another upon which we can suppose them to have searched for accuracy and acquired it, it is this. W. F. AINSWORTH.

Round Towers in Ireland .- As no one has noticed the speculations of "A. H.," printed in your issue of September the 21st (No. 2082), will you allow me to assure him that no connexion has been established between the Irish Round Towers and the High Places of Scripture, and that an inspection of any of our perfect Towers would at once dispel the fancy that they were intended to display a fire lighted at their summits. Some of them do exhibit signs of fire internally, but this can be accounted for by the existing records in our annals, which state that the Danes burning the towers with the ecclesiastics who took refuge within them. I will not follow your Correspondent into his philological arguments in support of the theory that the Phoenician god, Baal, was worshipped in Ireland and Celtic England. Some of the names of places which do duty for him unfortunately do not mean what he supposes; e.g., Baltinglas (the stock example with all Baal worshippers) does not imply any connexion with that god, the old form (of which Baltinglas is a corruption) being Bealach Conglais, or the Road of Conglais, or Cu-glais, son of Donn Desa, king of Leinster (O'Curry's Lectures, page 586). Baltimore, again means simply the "township of the great house," for the Bal here is the Bally which "A. H. judiciously does not press into his argument. It may be asserted with truth that nearly all the Bels, Bals and Bils which come so handy to the support of the Baal theory are forms of Bally, a township, Bealach, a road, and Beul, the mouth of a river. J. GRAVES.

Villein and Bondman.—These terms are generally confused. As early as Domesday Book, the villanus was in some districts a sufficiently important person to be called in with the barons, knights, &c. to make the returns required by the Conqueror. He was the representative of the modern tenant farmer, either paying a money rent, or performing a service rent, or partly one and partly the other. The bondman was rather the representative of the modern labourer, not necessarily holding land in the villa as the villanus did. But the word "villein" has been often used for both classes of men.

To Correspondents.—J. B.—A. H.—R. H.—Anon.— R. B.—C. B. C.—W. E. H.—W. P.—R. A.—S. L. G.—R. —received.

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